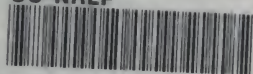
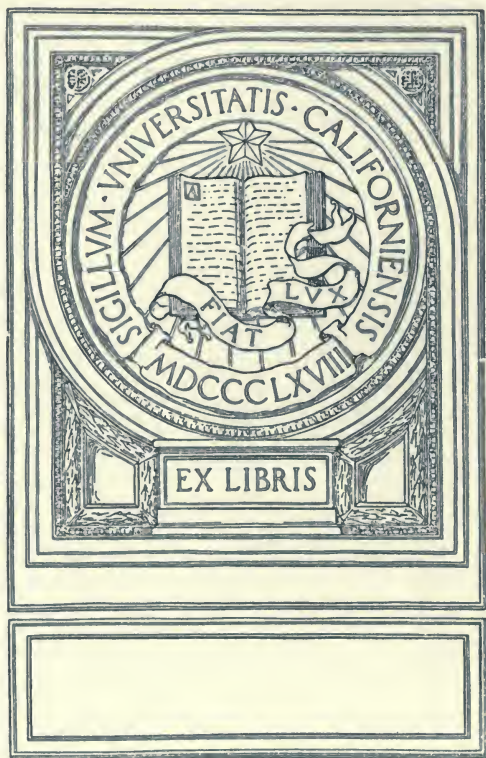


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YANKTON COLLEGE

YANKTON COLLEGE

A HISTORICAL SKETCH

BY

WILLIAM JOHN McMURTRY, M. A.



YANKTON, S. D.

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INTRODUCTION

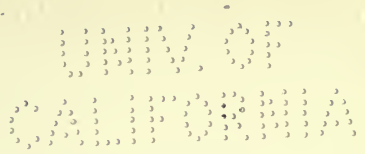
Among all the various agencies, so manifold in origin, so diverse in quality, that have been working together upon the great task of fitly fashioning the structure of what, we trust, is yet to be the world's noblest civilization, few are more worthy of honor, because few have been more potent for good, than is the institution known as the American College. Transferred from Old to New England at the time when the foundations of American life were being laid, ever has it stood as the foremost representative and champion of those principles of idealism, of that supreme regard for the things of the spirit, the complete and lasting dominance of which over the more material elements of life is the most vital condition of America's successful accomplishment of her mission. And so, from the colleges have come forth countless leaders and inspirers of the nation's higher life and aspirations, whether the struggle were against the blighting curse of slavery, against ignorance, superstition, and misery, in our own and foreign lands, or against the unscrupulous, grasping, corrupting schemes of predatory wealth. Step by step, they have accompanied the nation's mighty onward march over the continent; so that their moulding, uplifting influence has been, and is being, potently exerted

from the Atlantic to the Pacific, from the Lakes to the Gulf.

While it must be conceded that the universities founded in more recent times by numerous states, springing as they did from the same conditions of life as the colleges, and with faculties composed to a large extent of men trained therein, have been largely animated by a like spirit and ideals, and have undoubtedly made very valuable contributions of their own to the thought, the activities, and life of their respective commonwealths, and of the country at large; nevertheless, it remains true that the characteristic contribution made by the College as an institution to the enrichment and ennoblement of American life has been, in a preeminent degree, the gift of the institutions established under distinctively religious auspices. In this great and beneficent work of planting and nurturing colleges, the Congregational churches have taken the lead; and in all the splendid record of the services rendered by these churches to the intellectual, political, moral and religious life of the country, of no single item are they more justly proud than of the conspicuous part they have played in the founding and developing of institutions of higher learning. Established in weakness and poverty, in scantiness of equipment and resources, all these institutions were; yet the mere mention of such names as Harvard and Yale, Amherst and Williams, Dartmouth and Bowdoin, Beloit and Oberlin, Iowa and Colorado, is enough to show how wisely the foundations were laid. It is not too much to

say that, in whatever section of the country a Congregational college has been established, it has taken a leading position in upholding high standards of scholarship, and enlightened and worthy ideals of life, both public and private.

The following pages have as their object to set forth the short and simple annals of the establishment and growth of one of the youngest in the noble sisterhood of Congregational colleges. To her belongs the honor of being the first institution of higher learning, in a vast, newly settled region of our country, to throw open its doors to students. Though only the brief span of a quarter-century measures the period of her existence, yet those who are familiar with her work, her spirit, and her achievements, believe that she is showing herself worthy of her ancestry; and that her older and more famous sisters have no reason to be ashamed of the relationship. In her case, no less than in theirs, a large-minded and far-seeing leadership has been displayed; her history, like theirs, includes pages brightened by instances of unselfish devotion; her spirit, like theirs, has been that of fidelity to the interests of sound learning and the thorough training of youthful minds and hearts for intelligent, sane, and useful living.



CHAPTER I

THE LOCALITY

The original Territory of Dakota, consisting in part of the present States of North and South Dakota, constituted a considerable portion of that vast domain known as Louisiana, which was purchased by the United States from Napoleon in 1803. The Lewis and Clark expedition of 1804-6 made their way through it, following the course of the Missouri river. They described various localities along the river, among them the site of the future city of Yankton, which the journal of the expedition pictures as "a handsome prairie gently rising from the river on the north side, a small distance above which are beautiful groves of cottonwood on both sides of the river." For many years after this interesting glimpse of the location of our College was given, the far-reaching Dakota prairies continued to be the home of roving bands of fierce Sioux warriors and vast herds of buffalo. Now and then, they were penetrated by adventurous trappers and hunters. Upon the maps of school geographies, the region — now largely covered with fertile and prosperous farms and including one of the greatest wheat-producing areas of the world — was designated as the "Great American Desert." In 1857, a white settlement was established at Sioux Falls; but owing to the hostile attitude

of the Indians, which found disastrous expression in the Minnesota massacres, this settlement was abandoned in 1862. In 1858, a trading-post was established on the site of Yankton, near the confluence of the James river with the Missouri, where previously an Indian village had been located. During the Indian troubles of 1862, all the white settlers in that region fled to Yankton for refuge; and a stockade was erected for defence. Although the savages could be seen on the hills to the westward, no attack was made.

In 1861, a Territorial organization was conferred by the National Government; and in that year Territorial officials were appointed by President Lincoln. Yankton was the capital of the new Territory. At first, owing to the total lack of railroads and the fear of the Indians, but slow progress was made in settlement and development; but when the railroads came, and the Indians had been pacified and removed to reservations, a new era began; and settlers poured into the Territory in ever increasing numbers. In 1868, the population was only about twelve thousand. In 1880, it had increased to a little over one hundred and thirty-five thousand. From this time on, there was rapid advancement in population, in the building of towns, and in development of every sort, despite grasshoppers, hail, and drought. In 1883, greatly to the disgust of the more thickly settled southern portion of the Territory, the capital was moved from Yankton to Bismarck, the future capital of North Dakota. Very early in the history of the Territory, there grew up a sentiment in

favor of division, and the formation of two, or even three, states. As the population increased, the demand for statehood grew in strength; and constitutional conventions were held in 1883 and in 1885. Not until 1889, however, did Congress take action. In that year, the Territory of Dakota was divided, and became the States of North and South Dakota. South Dakota comprised an area of 77,650 square miles, containing a population of over 300, 000 at the time of admission to the Union. At the present time, this number has probably increased to half a million people, who have come partly from the more eastern states, partly from Europe. In the latter class, the Scandinavians, Germans, and Bohemians are largely represented.

CHAPTER II

THE FOUNDING

In 1868, Yankton was a frontier village, known far and wide as the capital of the Territory of Dakota, and as an important point in the steamboat traffic of the Missouri river. Though the presence of government officials imparted something of dignity to the life of the place, yet the characteristic vices of the "river town" were fully in evidence; and deeds of murderous violence were by no means unknown. Naturally, the Indians were a conspicuous feature of the street-scenes. During that year, a Congregational church — the first of that denomination to be established in Dakota — was organized, with a membership of eleven persons, two of whom — Mr. and Mrs. Ephraim Miner — are still actively connected with the same church. For a brief time, the church services were conducted by Rev. E. W. Cook, and for a still briefer time, by Rev. J. D. Bell. The American Home Missionary Society, under the auspices of which the church had been organized, had the great good fortune to secure, as the permanent pastor, Joseph Ward, a young man who had just graduated from the Andover Theological Seminary. Accompanied by his young bride, Mr. Ward arrived in Yankton on November 6, 1868, coming by stage from Sioux City.

Under Mr. Ward's pastorate, the church prospered; and in less than two years, a commodious building had been completed. From the very first, the people of the church felt that, in Mr. and Mrs. Ward, they had secured leaders and helpers of rare efficiency. Coming from cultured and refined surroundings in New England, they threw themselves, heart and soul, into the unformed life of the little frontier community; and started waves of influence that gradually spread far and wide through the vast Territory extending so far to the northward and westward. Soon, Joseph Ward was one of the best known, one of the most influential men in all the wide expanse of Dakota. And this was no accident; for Joseph Ward was no ordinary man. Large of frame, he was equally large in mind and heart. Descended from excellent New England stock, with the blood in his veins of that General Artemas Ward who commanded the American troops in the battle of Bunker Hill, he had received a thorough intellectual equipment for his future career. He was fitted for college at the famous Phillips Academy, at Andover, Massachusetts, and graduated from Brown University. His theological training he received at the Andover Seminary, at that time one of the most flourishing schools of theology in the country, with men on its faculty of national reputation for scholarship and ability as teachers. But after all, his own native endowments were his greatest strength. Genial and helpful in disposition, to the modesty of a child he added the insight and faith of a prophet, and the largeness of aim of a statesman. In

close association with the leaders of Territorial affairs, and regarded by them as a wise and trusted counsellor, he exercised a strong and helpful influence in favor of everything that was good, and that tended to the betterment of the plastic life and institutions of the future Dakotan commonwealths.

Next to religion, conceived of in a vital way as the supreme concern of the human spirit, the interests of education lay nearest to Mr. Ward's heart. Natural as was this attitude in his case, his bent toward it was made still stronger by the fact that Dr. Badger, the secretary at that time of the Home Missionary Society, in the final interview before Mr. Ward's departure for his far-western field of labor, admonished him that he must do what he could to promote the interests of Christian education in the new region. That injunction was never forgotten; and faithfully, yes, with uttermost fidelity, was it carried out. Early in his career at Yankton, he took the lead in a movement that resulted in the establishment of an academy — the earliest educational institution above the common school grade that came into existence in Dakota. When the legislature passed a law, framed by Mr. Ward, establishing a satisfactory system of public schools, including high schools, the academy was transformed into the Yankton High School. As president of the Yankton school board, he took the lead in developing the school system of the City. In recognition of his zealous interest in educational progress, an attempt was once made, without success, to induce him to accept

the position of Territorial Superintendent of Education. However, Mr. Ward felt that not yet had he done his full duty in the field of education. From the first, he had cherished in his heart the thought of establishing a college, an institution devoted to the higher training of the young people of the new country, under the controlling influence of the Christian ideal of self-sacrificing service. Even yet, there are a few old residents of Yankton who tell of the incredulous amazement with which they heard Mr. Ward broach the idea of starting a college in that wild, sparsely settled region, still occupied mainly by Indians. But the prophetic vision remained undimmed; and the scheme was unceasingly urged upon the attention of the representatives of the Congregational churches, now gradually increasing in number. At length the General Association took the first step, at a session held at Canton, May 20, 1875, by the appointment of a College Committee. This committee was continued from year to year; until, at a special meeting, held again at Canton, May 25, 1881, the Association ratified the recommendation of its committee that a college be established, and located the institution at Yankton, in consideration of the offer of eleven thousand dollars and a site. Of the eleven thousand dollars, nine thousand was contributed by the Yankton Congregational Church. The name of the College was determined by its location; the original intention was that it should be called Pilgrim College. That the institution is the child of the General Association of Congregational Churches, has found its most

tangible indication in the fact that, from the first, the Association has annually appointed a committee to visit the College and report upon its condition. In his efforts to secure the founding of the institution, Mr. Ward found an efficient supporter in Rev. Charles Seccombe, of Springfield, who had, at an earlier period, taken a leading part in the establishment of Carleton College, in Minnesota.

In accordance with the laws of the Territory, a body known as the College Association of Dakota was formed, "for the purpose of establishing a Christian college in Dakota," and to form a corporation whose business it should be to administer the affairs of the new institution. On August 2, 1881, a meeting of this association was held, with Newton Edmunds, an ex-governor of the Territory, still residing in Yankton, acting as President, and Joseph Ward as Secretary, at which articles of incorporation were adopted. The incorporators were to be a self-perpetuating body, entrusted with the general management of the College, but carrying on the actual administration of its affairs through a Board of nine Trustees, to be elected from and by the Corporate Body. At this same meeting, the incorporators elected the following gentlemen as provisional Trustees: Joseph Ward, of Yankton; Stewart Sheldon, of Yankton; Edward P. Wilcox, of Yankton; Lucius Kingsbury, of Canton; John R. Jackson, of Valley Springs; Charles Seccombe, of Springfield; Newton Edmunds, of Yankton; Ephraim Miner, of Yankton; Josiah R. Sanborn, of Yankton. Of these men, four were Congregational clergymen;

four were Congregational laymen; while Governor Edmunds was an Episcopalian. One of them — Edward P. Wilcox — is at the present time serving on the Board of Trustees. Rev. Stewart Sheldon was the brother-in-law of Mr. Ward, and father of Charles M. Sheldon, noted as the author of "In His Steps."

According to the Articles of Incorporation, eleven professorships were to be ultimately established in the College, the holders of which were to be designated as follows: (1) President and Professor of Moral and Intellectual Philosophy and Natural Theology; (2) Professor of the Latin Language and Literature; (3) Professor of the Greek Language and Literature; (4) Professor of Physics and Astronomy; (5) Professor of Rhetoric, English Literature, and Elocution; (6) Professor of Modern Languages; (7) Professor of Music and Painting; (8) Professor of Chemistry and Mineralogy; (9) Professor of Geology and Natural History; (10) Professor of Mathematics and Civil Engineering; (11) Professor of History and Political Economy. At the present time, there are ten regular professorships covering much the same field of instruction as that marked out by the list, though with a considerable divergence in the division of the work.

The Charter of the College bears the date of August 30, 1881, and reads as follows:

TERRITORY OF DAKOTA

CERTIFICATE OF CORPORATE EXISTENCE

WHEREAS, Joseph Ward, Lucius Kingsbury, John R. Jackson, and others, have filed in this office a

certificate or declaration in writing, as provided in Section 389 of the Civil Code of this Territory, setting forth all the facts required to be stated in Sections 386, 539, and 547 of said Civil Code, and have in all respects complied with the requirements of the law governing the formation of Private Corporations, as contained in the Civil Code of this Territory, now, therefore, I, Geo. H. Hand, Secretary of the Territory of Dakota, in virtue and by authority of law, do hereby certify that said parties, their associates and successors, have become a body politic and corporate under the corporate name of Yankton College, and by that name have a right to sue and be sued, purchase, hold and convey real and personal property and to have and enjoy all the rights and privileges granted to a private Corporation, under the laws of this Territory, subject to their Articles of Incorporation, and all legal restrictions and liabilities in relation thereto.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the Territory of Dakota.

Done at Yankton this 30th day of August, A. D. 1881.

(Signed) Geo. H. Hand,

Secretary of Dakota Territory.

On Sunday, October 30, the plot of ground designed for the Campus of the newly founded institution, lying just north of the town upon a hill, since known as College Hill, was consecrated by a public meeting to the cause of Christian Education. Addresses were made by Rev. Joseph Ward, of Yankton, and Rev.

C. W. Shelton, of Dell Rapids. Seven members of the "Yale Dakota Band" were present, namely: Messrs. Case, Fisk, Holp, Hubbard, Reitzel, Shelton, and Thrall.

On June 15, 1882, the corner-stone of the first building of the College was laid with much ceremony. The citizens of the town were largely represented; the children of the public schools were present in a body, and representatives of the Territorial and City governments took part in the exercises. This building, now known as Middle Hall, is a substantial and sightly structure, containing three stories and basement, and is built of Sioux Falls jasper. It was not ready for occupancy until the beginning of the second year's work of the College. Consequently, the first sessions were held in the chapel of the Congregational Church, beginning October 4, 1882, with five pupils present. These five — including the first young people of Dakota to enter upon the pursuit of the higher education in a home institution — were the following: William P. Dewey, Jr., of Yankton; Edward D. Disbrow of Akron, Iowa; Edgar M. Hand, of Yankton; Jennie D. Ketchum, of Yankton, and Lena D. McGlumphy, of Yankton, now Mrs. J. E. Branch. The second name in the list shows that, from the very first, the College has reached out beyond the Dakotan boundaries for its students—a natural result of the location of Yankton.

During the first year, the actual work of instruction was carried on, with great faithfulness, by Professor William M. Bristoll and his wife, Mrs. Rosa O. Bristoll. Professor Bristoll had been, for eight years, Superin-

tendent of Schools in Yankton. He was given the official designation of Professor of Latin and Principal of the Preparatory Department. A small building, containing three rooms, situated just south of the Church, was subsequently rented to house the infant College, and was occupied during the first year. This structure is still in existence, though it has been removed from its former location. In the course of the year, additional students entered, so that the total attendance for the year reached the very respectable number of forty-one. Some years afterwards, one of this company wrote for the College paper an article giving some reminiscences of this Year 1 in the life of the College. Speaking of the chapel services he says:

“Dr. Ward read out of a little old leather-covered Bible; and Professor Bristoll played upon the little wheezy old organ, now in the Congregational Chapel. Right after chapel, the first class that ever studied Goodwin’s Greek Grammar in Yankton recited; and that class worked as hard as any class in Yankton ever has worked over their Greek. Virgil was read all the year by the Senior Preparatory class.”

It seems that, on one point, the writer of the above was mistaken; because Rev. Charles M. Sheldon states that he himself constituted a class of one, which began the study of Greek in the Yankton High School, at a period preceding the birth of the College.

At a meeting of the Board of Trustees, held on January 16, 1883, the following resolution was offered by Rev. Charles Seccombe:

RESOLVED, First, that in the opinion of the Board the time has come for choosing a president for Yankton College.

Second, that Rev. Joseph Ward, of Yankton, is the man we need and desire for that position; and that we, therefore, unanimously invite and urge him to accept the position, and enter at once upon the work.

On motion of Rev. L. Kingsbury, the resolution was unanimously adopted.

CHAPTER III

THE ADMINISTRATION OF PRESIDENT WARD (1883-1889)

In May, 1883, Mr. Ward gave up his pastorate, in order to devote all his time and strength to the upbuilding and development of the College. Plans were made for a substantial enlargement of the work for the coming year. The Faculty was constituted as follows: Rev. Joseph Ward, President and Professor of Mental and Moral Philosophy; Rev. E. C. Norton, Professor of Greek and Instructor in Mathematics; Rev. John T. Shaw, Professor of Latin and Principal of the Preparatory Department; Celia E. Whiteman and Ellen A. Norton, Assistants in the Preparatory Department; Mrs. Rosalie T. Shelton, Teacher of Freehand Drawing; Jean H. Ward, Teacher of Painting; Kate C. Wheaton, Teacher of Music.—Rev. C. W. Shelton, Field Agent. Professors Norton and Shaw played a large part in the life and development of the College during those early years. Both were young men of ability and good training — the former, a graduate of Amherst, who had taken graduate work at Johns Hopkins; the latter, a graduate of Brown University and of Andover Seminary. Doubtless, President Ward cherished the hope that they would remain permanently with the College, but such was not to be the case. Professor Shaw, as Principal of the Preparatory De-

partment, displayed in a marked degree the ability to gain the respect and liking of boys and young men.

The course of study, as outlined in the first catalogue for the ensuing year, embraced a Sub-Preparatory course of two years, a Preparatory course of three years, and the College course proper, a four-years course. The fact that two years of Sub-Preparatory work were offered, was doubtless due to the undeveloped condition of the public schools of the Territory. Nevertheless, the Sub-Preparatory course is omitted in the following catalogue, and remains invisible for a number of years, to reappear finally as a one-year course; in which form it has survived down to the present time. The Preparatory and College courses each included a Classical and a Scientific course, the only point of difference being that, in the latter, the place of Greek was taken throughout by modern studies. Latin was required of both Classical and Scientific students during two years of their College work. Classical students spent the same time upon their Greek. That was before the day of electives; and these courses of study share in both the merits and the defects of the college curricula of that period. The fact that, at the very start, President Ward laid down courses abreast of the standards customary at that time in old and well-established institutions, showed his determination to aim high, in spite of all temptations to the contrary procedure. If any are inclined to raise the objection, that it was preposterous to think of teaching such courses, with the small faculty and meager outfit at hand, they are reminded

that, in this second year of the life of the College, only the Freshman class was represented in the College proper; and, furthermore, the President was confidently hoping that the teaching force and equipment would increase, as need arose.

The list of students shows eight in the College proper, all classed as Freshmen, three young men and five young women, all of the latter being designated as "special." Moreover, each of the three classes of the Preparatory Department had a goodly number enrolled, as well as the Sub-Preparatory, or English Department. Then, too, the Musical and Art Departments make a good showing in the number taking those lines of work.

Another token of progress is the fact that the students organized, in the spring of 1884, the Yankton College Christian Association. A weekly students' prayer-meeting had been held from the very first; and the Christian Association grew out of this, the purpose in its organization being to take charge of this prayer-meeting, and also of the other distinctively religious activities of the students, for example, Sunday School work in country school-houses round about Yankton. For a considerable number of years, this organization, entirely local in its character, carried out with a good measure of efficiency the objects for which it was established; but finally, in 1894, it was decided to divide the Association into two, one for young men and the other for young women, each to be connected with the international College Christian Associations.

At the close of the second college year (1883-4), it was felt that much progress had been made; and that everything pointed toward a prosperous year to come. Robert B. Riggs, a son of Stephen Riggs, the well-known missionary among the Indians, and a younger brother of Alfred and Thomas Riggs, the missionary brothers, who had secured his doctor's degree in Germany, accepted a call to the chair of Chemistry, with the understanding that he would come when needed. Announcement was made in the catalogue that Miss Causine Kern, a graduate of the New England Conservatory of Music, would have charge of Vocal Music for the coming year; also that a competent teacher of German (Mrs. E. C. Norton) had been secured. A College boarding hall was provided, over which Miss M. A. Shepard presided as Matron.

The courses of study remained much the same as they were announced in the catalogue of the preceding year, except that students taking the Scientific course were required to study Greek as well as Latin, to the end of the Freshman year. From the standpoint of a Scientific student of the present day, such a course would indeed be a weariness to the flesh. A new departure is the announcement of a Teachers' course — a feature of the work of the College that has persisted down to the present time. The course as announced covered four years, and included no foreign languages.

The library now comes into view; and the following interesting statements are made in relation thereto: "The library has been increased during the past year

by more than a thousand volumes, and is open to students of the College without charge. Great care has been taken to secure valuable books of reference; and the foundation of an excellent reference library is laid. Among the generous friends who have donated books are: The Ladies' Library Association, Yankton; Mr. A. W. Barber, Yankton; Mr. Butler Ward, Leroy, New York; Rev. S. Norton, Pierre; Rev. A. L. Riggs, Santee Agency, Nebraska; Rev. E. C. Chittenden, Sioux City, Iowa; General W. H. H. Beadle, Yankton; Amos C. Barstow, Providence, Rhode Island."

Surely, those who were the first to respond to this fundamental need of the new-born institution, deserve to have their names gratefully recorded.

Another addition to the equipment is announced in the following words: "At the beginning of the year, the Dakota Scientific Association presented to the College a valuable geological and mineralogical cabinet, including a full collection of the ores of the Black Hills, besides collections of minerals, fossils, shells, etc. The additions made to this cabinet during the year render it complete enough already to be of great service in different lines of scientific study."

A statement also appears regarding a matter that has aroused keen interest in the student-mind, from those early days down to the present. It appears under the heading "Prizes." Perhaps, the first records of a system so fraught with pleasant memories for many successive generations of students deserve quotation: "Three prizes are offered, as follows: first, a prize of

ten dollars, open to members of the Freshman class, for the best debate on an assigned question; second, a first prize of twelve dollars, and a second of eight dollars, open to boys of the Preparatory Department, for excellence in declamation; third, a first prize of twelve, and a second of eight dollars, open to the girls of the College, for excellence in select reading. The prize for the best debate was awarded, for 1884, to W. T. Flanagan and E. H. Pound, both of Yankton. The first prize for excellence in declamation was awarded to R. S. Cooley, of Niobrara, Nebraska; the second prize to F. B. Riggs, of Santee Agency, Nebraska. The first prize for excellence in select reading was awarded to Miss Lulu M. Etter, of Yankton; the second to Miss May Beadle, of Yankton."

The declamation prizes were contributed by various citizens; the prize for debate by Hon. Bartlett Tripp, of Yankton, who has continued it through all the years since. It is now known as the prize for the Flanagan Prize Debate. It was fitting that W. T. Flanagan, as a memorial to whom it was made permanent, should be one of the first to win it. The two other contests are the ancestors of the present Declamation Contest of Young Men of the Academy and the Declamation Contest of Young Women of College and Academy. In the following year, Professor J. W. Churchill, of Andover, gave twenty-five dollars, divided into three prizes, in connection with the Boys' Declamation Contest—a gift which was repeated annually during the life of the donor. In 1891, the Alumni Association estab-

lished three prizes, amounting to twenty-five dollars, for the victors in the Young Women's Declamation Contest.

The opening of the college year 1884-5 was made memorable by one of the most notable occasions in the history of the College, namely: the dedication of the new building — and the new building was at that time Yankton College — and in connection therewith the ceremony of the inauguration of President Ward. Although the building, the construction of which I have mentioned, had been in use throughout the preceding year, nevertheless, it was not fully completed until the summer of 1884. Accordingly, elaborate preparations were made for its dedication, and the formal induction into his office of the President. The meeting of the General Association of the Congregational Churches of the Territory was held at Yankton that year, simultaneously with these interesting College events, thus giving the churches an opportunity to become better acquainted, through their representatives, with the institution recently established under their auspices. Never before had a meeting of the Association been so largely attended. The Inauguration Service was held Wednesday evening, September 17. Dr. Ward's address on this occasion was a notable utterance, setting forth in an admirable manner the high and noble ideals which he cherished on behalf of the young institution of which he had been chosen the leader. I offer no apology for quoting some of the thoughts to which he gave expression that evening;

because such sentiments as the following seem to me to embody the most satisfactory justification for the establishment and continued existence of such institutions:

"If a college did nothing else in this Western land than, by its sharp contrast with eager haste for wealth and power, to show by its quiet, patient, long-continued following of something that did not immediately pay, that life had another and possibly a wiser interpretation, this result alone would justify all that is done to build them up.

"Is it a small thing to turn a man or woman aside from mere gain to the building up of character? Is it nothing to train up citizens that can find no temptation in wealth to make them neglect duty? Is it wasted time to fit men to do things thoroughly, just for the sake of doing them, even though they may never be paid ever so remotely for it?

"What can be nobler than to found an institution that, by the simple force of its daily life, shall go out among the young and call each one to a higher life than he could have found without it!

"Least of all can Western colleges afford to lower the standard and let the clamor for something practical make them reject the ancient standards. Not for the sake of being as good as Eastern colleges, least of all to tamely copy them, but for the sake of sterling honesty, to build up genuine character, to stand in the breach against the trading, mercantile spirit, to develop a race of men that are willing to work and wait, and having

done all to stand, must we have an ideal that is hard, not easy, to reach. Everything is raw and crude. Our towns run wild. It was not mawkish sentiment that made Matthew Arnold say that America dreadfully needed some old ruins. He felt that our intense life in the present needed to be balanced by looking to the past."

It is not too much to say that, whatever of true success the College has hitherto attained, or shall attain in the coming years, is measured by the degree in which it has been faithful to the spirit inspiring these utterances.

On Friday evening, the address of dedication was given by W. J. Tucker, D. D., then a professor at Andover, now the President of Dartmouth College.

Among those present on this occasion was Dr. Gilbert, at one time editor of *The Advance*. To show how the College impressed an outsider at that early day in its history, I will quote from a letter written by Dr. Gilbert to *The Congregationalist*, of October 2, 1884:

"I have just been over to the College of which Dr. Joseph Ward is President. It occupies a magnificent site overlooking the City and a superb outreach of country up and down the Missouri. It has now but one building, but if you saw it, you would be proud of it, as all the people here are. It is built of handsome stone, native to the soil, the "Sioux Falls granite," or rather, jasper; has three stories with basement, a dome-shaped bell-tower at one corner, and a higher tower at the other. It is finished within throughout in ash and

pine. The money for its construction came mainly from the Yankton Congregational church, which is, in fact, the "cherishing mother" of the College.

"I wish you could have been at the College Chapel this morning. The room is singularly pleasant. Air and sky were at their best, and they have plenty of both out here. The Dakota Congregational Association had adjourned from the church, and were present in force with the students. I confess I was deeply moved at beholding the scene and thinking of all which it signified and foretokened. The look and manner of the students were full of promise. Dr. Ward has a remarkably fine corps of accomplished, devoted, ambitious instructors, ladies and gentlemen, associated with him. Among the students in these earlier classes will be found some who will be heard from hereafter.

"Then again, on Friday evening, Professor W. J. Tucker, D. D., of Andover, gave the 'Dedicatory Address' for the College. Dr. Tucker's manner, by its fine blending of gentleness and power, held the fascinated attention of all throughout. But—since there is scarcely anything in the world so insatiable as a good college—all this was not enough. Saturday afternoon was given up to the grand dedicatory services of the College building. It was an occasion of extraordinary interest. Everything done and said was appropriate. The addresses of Rev. L. Kingsbury of the Trustees, of President Ward, of Chief Justice Edgerton—who gave the most impressive testimony to the transcendent value of such an institution to the state—of Professors Shaw,

Riggs, and Norton, and the dozen or more others, were all capably apt, bright, wise, and racy, and were immensely enjoyed. The conviction of all is that, seldom if ever in our history, has a Christian college had a more auspicious beginning.

“From these vastly picturesque bluffs and fertile bottom lands of the Missouri, I turn back again across the richest grain-fields of the West, toward the central city of the Union, on Lake Michigan, with a burdened impression as to the immenseness of the work to be done — the joint work of the enlightened Christian people, both East and West — in making sure that these newer commonwealths of the West may get the right start, and have effectually planted in them all the varied forms of Christian institutions, which shall fashion their molds of life and guide their activities forever.”

In truth, necessarily, a large part of the means for carrying on such a work had to be sought in the East. In frontier communities like those of Dakota, in those early years, it could only be expected that a comparatively small portion of the people would take an active and helpful interest in supporting an institution of higher learning. Moreover, even these few had but scanty means wherewith to give aid, engaged as they were in the arduous task of opening up the resources of a new and undeveloped country. Hence, from the very first, a large and extremely burdensome part of Dr. Ward's duties as President consisted of lengthy annual sojourns in the East, especially in New England

during which he was engaged in the wearisome task of soliciting means for carrying on the work of the College from Christian, especially Congregational, people animated by patriotic and philanthropic impulses. In fact, one of the reasons for the universal feeling that Dr. Ward was the pre-eminently fitting man to be the President of the College, was the conviction of his unusual adaptation to this unpleasant and difficult but inevitable duty, by reason of his personal characteristics, and his acquaintance with men influential in the Eastern churches. After his death, it was said of him: "No man was known so widely, so favorably, outside of the commonwealth, as Joseph Ward. In some quarters, his name was synonymous with Dakota. In a great assembly once, a speaker addressed him as 'Yankton.' No one for many years could so readily secure Eastern capital for large enterprises, or so favorably negotiate the bonds of this new country."

The oldest literary societies had now made their appearance upon the scene of college activity — one for the young men, known as the Yankton College Literary Society, and the other — the Aristonian — for young women. Both of these organizations have survived to the present day, retaining their original names; though the former has become one of the two societies intended exclusively for young men of the Academy; while the Aristonian has developed into an exclusively College organization for young women. It is needless to say that the friendly rivalries of these, and the kindred societies that soon came into existence, added much to

the pleasure, and considerable to the profit, of college life.

On January 5, 1885, the Trustees voted that the motto of the College should be "Christ for the World." The sentiment finds expression in a hymn composed by Rev. Samuel Wolcott, D. D., beginning "Christ for the world, we sing." Previous to this action, this hymn had come to be recognized as the College hymn, and still holds that place. Furthermore, Rev. Charles M. Sheldon, who was, as has before been stated, a nephew of Dr. Ward, at his uncle's request, composed an inscription for the College bell — a gift from Mr. A. C. Dakin, of Clinton, Mass.— in which he introduces the same thought, as follows:

"At morn, at noon, at twilight dim,
My voice shall sound
The world around,
'Christ for the world,
The world for Him!' "

As an indication of the estimation in which the College was held at this time, it may be noted that Hon. W. H. H. Beadle, the Territorial Superintendent of Public Instruction, spoke of its work in his annual report as follows: "The classes of Yankton College are the most advanced of any in the Territory, and the institution, now in its third year, has established a high reputation for accuracy of scholarship and thoroughness of instruction."

During the following college year (1885-6), the School continued to grow and prosper. At the end

of the year, a total attendance of one hundred and fifty had been reached. The following new names appear in the Faculty list: Alfred G. Langley, M. A., Instructor in Psychology and History; Caroline M. Hyde, B. S., Instructor in English Literature; Jessie R. Holmes, Instructor in History; Alice G. Sheldon, Teacher of Painting. Mrs. A. M. Dawson served as Matron. Dr. Riggs resigned the Professorship of Chemistry before entering upon its duties, to accept an appointment to the same position in Trinity College, Hartford, Connecticut. Mr. Langley was a graduate of Brown University, who had specialized in philosophical work. He remained with the College for only a portion of the year. In later years, he published a translation of Leibnitz's *Nouveaux Essais*.

The statement in the catalogue of the requirements for admission to the work of the regular Freshman class indicates the high standards that were already being set up and maintained. It was as follows: "For admission to the Freshman class, besides the common English branches, preparation in the following studies is required: General History; Physical Geography; Elements of Rhetoric; Algebra to Quadratic Equations; Plain Geometry; Latin Grammar; Caesar, Three Books; Cicero, Five Orations; Virgil, Six Books; Latin Prose; Greek Grammar; Anabasis, Three Books; Selections from Greek Historians; Greek Prose, Twenty Sections."

Another significant token of growth was the appearance, in September, 1885, of the first number of the

student paper, entitled then and ever since "The Yankton Student." It has always been the proud boast of this publication, that it was the first paper really published by students to appear in Dakota. The opening announcement reads as follows: "This is designed to be a college newspaper. It will try to give some items not only about our best beloved Yankton College, but other Dakota schools. We will try and look with the proper feelings of respect upon older Eastern colleges. We hope to live and grow. A college paper should embody and crystallize, as it were, the spirit, mind, and time of the college, and it shall be our first thought and highest endeavor to make *The Yankton Student* fulfil this prime requirement." The subscription price was to be forty-five cents a year. The following year, it was increased to fifty cents; some years afterward, to seventy-five cents, and still later, to one dollar — the present price. The first editorial board consisted of Edward H. Pound, Managing Editor; Robert S. Cooley, Mary H. Pound, Frederick B. Riggs, and Nellie D. Sharp, Associate Editors. The writer of these pages thankfully acknowledges that much of his material has been derived from the files of this student publication.

The very first number of *The Student* contains indications of an awakening interest in a feature of college life that, since those days, has undergone a remarkable development, not only in Yankton College, but also in American colleges in general. The following quotation will explain: "In the matter of athletics, our

College is backward; even Gurney's "boss exercise" is gone. We have a good strong lot of boys, and they will not die right away, but none the less, some hearty, vigorous exercise would be good for all. The butcher and the baker would approve, although it might be bad for the College Boarding Hall. Let us have an organization among the baseball players and some arrangements for practice. Something, too, could surely be done with football. We are waiting for someone to go ahead and take the lead. Come on, and make yourselves famous as the first football club in Yankton College!"

A little later, an organization known as the Athlon Club, whose function it should be to develop and foster athletic interests, was started. An early result of this movement was the introduction of military drill among the young men, a company being organized with the following officers: S. G. Gale, Captain; P. Pierce, First Lieutenant; B. Woolley, Second Lieutenant; H. W. Jamison, D. C. Laird, and F. B. Riggs, Sergeants. Regular drill was to be held every Friday at four P. M. The military enthusiasm would seem even to have affected the young women, inasmuch as they too began to drill. In spite, however, of this good beginning, Athletics failed to flourish. Military zeal, apparently, soon waned; and the forcible editorial exhortations to greater athletic activity, that appear in the columns of *The Student*, make it manifest that the day of Athletics was not yet. In *The Student* for October, 1886, appears the following editorial para-

graph: "The Athlon Club, with all its Athletics and military drill, has apparently gone to sleep. The subject ought to have a rest. For the importance of Athletics to brain-workers has ever been a much discussed subject, with which all of us are familiar. Yet this retrograde course is to be deplored. The Athlon Club did not prove worthless during the past year, and had interest in that direction continued, the Club would have grown in value. It may be that encouragements were small; and thus the affair has taken its natural course. However, it is hoped that this inactivity will be short-lived, and that soon Athletics will flourish more than ever."

During this year, the name of one who was to be, for many years, a faithful and enthusiastic friend of the College first appears in its records. I refer to Rev. D. B. Nichols, D. D., commonly known as "Father Nichols." He was a Congregational clergyman, a member of the first graduating class of Oberlin College, who, after a widely varied career, had become the pastor of the Congregational church at BonHomme. At a meeting of the Corporate Board, held June 4, 1886, he was elected a member of the Board, and also a Trustee. Shortly after, he accepted the position of Field Agent for the College, removing to Yankton. The duties of this position he discharged for a year. In 1887, he was appointed Librarian and Curator of Cabinets by the Trustees. In the same year, at an age when most men regard their life-work as completed, he established a church a few miles east of Yankton,

about which soon grew up a thriving village, which received its name — Mission Hill — from Father Nichols. To this church he faithfully ministered for nearly twenty years, as long as his strength permitted. Thereupon, he removed again to Yankton, where he resided for a brief period, finally removing to Oregon, to live with a daughter. There, in December, 1906, he died at the age of ninety years and two months. Father Nichols was a man of abundant faith and unquenchable optimism, retaining a childlike freshness of interest in life up to the very last. During the years he spent at Mission Hill, it was his custom to address, at least once a year, the students of the College, assembled for chapel services. These addresses, full as they were of interesting reminiscences of his early life, faithfully retained by a memory of extraordinary tenacity, were always greatly enjoyed by his student audiences.

In the November issue of *The Student*, appears the following interesting statement: "Our library still grows. President Porter and Professor Harris, of Yale, have sent us copies of their works. Professor Tucker, of Andover, has given us three hundred volumes. Mr. John T. Pierce, of Nebraska, has given some elegantly bound editions of the classics."

The increased number of students led to the organization of a new literary society for young men — the Philomathean — which still exists as the second society for young men of the Academy. The same cause made felt the pressing need for more room, especially to

accommodate the boarding hall, which was now located in inadequate quarters in the basement of the College building, and also to furnish a home for young women from out of town. These were in part living in private houses, of which there was only a very small number of sufficiently convenient location for the purpose; the remainder were lodged in the third story of the College building. In order to meet this need, the Trustees decided to make an attempt to construct a ladies' dormitory, capable of accommodating seventy-five young women, and containing a kitchen, dining-room, and laundry. The President was directed to secure plans for such a building. Nevertheless, this design was not destined to be realized for some years, great though the need was.

For the year 1886-7, the following new members of the Faculty were appointed: A. F. Bartlett, Professor of Physics and Mathematics; General W. H. H. Beadle, Lecturer in History and Civil Government; Edward M. Young, Director of the Musical Department, and Mrs. E. M. Young, Assistant in Music. Professor Bartlett, a graduate of Oberlin, held the position of Superintendent of Schools in Yankton, and during that year, he combined the duties of that position with what teaching he did in the College. General Beadle, a graduate of the University of Michigan, had recently served as Territorial Superintendent of Public Instruction. Throughout the history of the College, he has been one of its most faithful friends. During the three years that Professor and Mrs. Young taught in

the institution, the work in Music was greatly advanced and strengthened.

During this year, for the first time, a lecture course was provided; and certainly a good start was made, inasmuch as the course included lectures by Richard Proctor, the English astronomer and writer; by Lew Wallace, George R. Wendling, and Joseph Cook. Another feature of college life that holds a conspicuous place at the present time, was inaugurated that year; for, on February 7, 1887, the first inter-collegiate debate occurred at Vermillion, between two representatives of the Yankton College Literary Society, and of one of the literary societies of the State University. The question debated was the worth of the jury system. Robert S. Cooley and James F. Hall were the Yankton debaters. In view of the fact that the three judges were all citizens of Vermillion, the outcome — two to one in favor of the Vermillion debaters — was, perhaps, as favorable as could be expected.

Though the year as a whole shows indications of progress, nevertheless, it was marked by some of the most trying and discouraging experiences in the entire history of the institution. Various tokens of financial stress and strain appear. The growth of the institution, calling as it did for additions to the teaching force and to equipment, made still heavier the burden laid upon the strong and patient shoulders of the President — the wearisome task of filling up the ever-yawning gap between income and expenditure by soliciting contributions from generous Eastern friends. Accordingly,

the record shows that on September 29, 1886, the Trustees voted to make an appeal to the citizens of Yankton for financial aid to the College, especially to pay off debts. Again, on December 21, it was decided to borrow \$1500.00 from the First National Bank, in order to pay teachers' salaries and other bills. But a greater misfortune than financial difficulty befell the struggling institution about the middle of the year, through the alienation of a considerable number of its strongest friends and supporters. This was due to a mistaken impression that Dr. Ward aimed to make use of the College as an instrument for the propagation of the doctrines of the New Theology, and especially of the so-called Andover Hypothesis of "Future Probation." Four of the nine Trustees resigned, including two of the most generous local givers. The full weight of such a misfortune can be appreciated only by one who realizes the extreme difficulty of finding, among the hurried business and professional men in a new and rapidly developing country, those who are willing to give time and thought and money to the upbuilding of an institution apparently so remote from practical interests as is a college. It is exceedingly pleasant to record that these unfortunate disagreements were gradually softened, primarily, by the not distant death of Dr. Ward, and then, by the mellowing influence of time. Little by little, the old habits of generous and helpful co-operation were resumed; and presently, no traces of division were to be seen. A number of the members of the Faculty resigned, including E. C. Norton, the

Professor of Greek, whose resignation was accepted with deep regret, as he was universally regarded as a thoroughly competent and effective teacher, and a man of high Christian character. For many years, Professor Norton has been connected with the faculty of Pomona College, in California.

The May number of *The Student* conveys the information that several hundred trees were set out that spring on the Campus, and indulges in some pessimistic pleasantries regarding the future of those diminutive specimens of vegetation, and the probable remoteness of the period when their utility as producers of shade should become perceptible. It is pleasant to reflect that this beginning of the systematic cultivation and adornment of the College grounds has entirely failed to justify such forebodings; and that those very trees play their part in constituting a scene that has already become one of great beauty and charm.

Upon Dr. Ward's resignation of the pastorate of the Yankton church, Rev. C. F. Clapp had been chosen as his successor. Owing to Mr. Clapp's resignation, a new pastor was secured in the person of Rev. Dan F. Bradley, who entered upon the duties of the position on June 1, 1887. Mr. Bradley was then a young man, a graduate of Oberlin College and Seminary, and possessed of a boundless store of enthusiasm and energy. From the first, he took a deep interest in the welfare of the College, and became a strong factor in maintaining and promoting its development, during the years of his ministry in Yankton.

In addition to its other notable features, this year was made forever memorable in the annals of the College by the fact that it dates the graduation of its first class — a class consisting of but one member — Edward Hinman Pound. Mr. Pound became a student of the College during the first year of its work, entering the Freshman class in the fall of the following year — 1883. The work of the Junior year he took at Brown University, but loyally returned to graduate from the youthful institution that had given him the greater part of his training.

The exercises of this noteworthy Commencement week were opened on Sunday evening, June 5, with the baccalaureate sermon by President Ward, his text — a characteristic one — being Matthew 5:48: "Be ye therefore perfect even as your Father who is in Heaven is perfect." On Monday evening, came the annual concert of the Department of Music. The following students of the department took part: Alatheia Disbrow, Frank C. Smith, Maurice Blatt, Bessie Russell, Alice Kingsbury, Kate Carney, Jessie Poore, Lillian Fisher, Harold Roberts, Nellie Miner, Minnie Jencks, Sarah Knudson, Sophia E. Schenck, Nettie Van Ostrand, Alice Poulton. On Tuesday evening, came the Declamation Contest for the Churchill Prizes. The contestants were the following young men: Henry Rufus Miner, Yankton; George Williston Nash, Canton; Henry Winfield Jamison, Dover; Edward Dodge Gray, Lake Henry; Elmer Amos Chase, Sturgis; Albert Barnes, Yankton; Charles Horace Seccombe,

Springfield; George Durand Wilder, Huron. The first prize was won by H. W. Jamison; the second, by E. A. Chase; the third, by G. W. Nash. J. F. Hall received the Jeffris Prize for writing the best essay.

On Wednesday afternoon, the regular Commencement exercises were held in the Congregational Church. Mr. Pound delivered an oration, of which the subject was "Is the Constitution final?" The following sentences show the point of view, and are not without pertinence to present-day problems in national politics: "Keeping fast hold of the truth to which our discussion has brought us, there is but one attitude we can assume toward the Constitution. We are not its servants, but it is ours. So long as it serves us, well and good; but whenever it comes to hinder rather than to help in the problems of government, then, to change it, or if that cannot be done, to lay it aside for another, is not a sacrilege, but a sacred duty." President Ward, in addressing Mr. Pound as the graduating class, spoke of him very forcibly, and it is to be hoped truly, as "the first man in a thousand years."

The Commencement address was delivered by Rev. C. F. P. Bancroft, Principal of Phillips Academy, Andover, Massachusetts, the famous preparatory school, at which Dr. Ward had fitted himself for college. Moreover, Dr. Bancroft was his fellow-student at Andover Seminary. The subject of his interesting address was "What a College Is; What a College Can Do; What a College Needs." Such excellent satisfaction did it give that, by request of the Trustees, it was published

in pamphlet form. I cannot forbear making a somewhat lengthy quotation:

“To-day Yankton College *begins*. I do not overlook the years of work and waiting which have gone before, the courage, the venture, the self-denial, the prayers, that have gone into it, the good it has been doing, the devoted men and women who have rallied about it, the young men and women who have resorted to it, and who have been at once its justification and its appeal. But to-day, in academic phrase, a phrase sanctioned by the almost universal usage of centuries, it celebrates its first Commencement, it takes to itself its proper functions, it avails itself of its charter privileges, it claims its right to stand with the colleges of the land, and there it takes its stand with Harvard, and Yale, and Princeton, and Dartmouth, and Brown — side by side with the oldest, the richest, the most famous, the best. It is only small things which look largest close at hand. To appreciate the majesty of St. Peter’s one must go far out on the Campagna or climb some distant hill. So this college looks larger from the banks of the Charles and the Connecticut than from the valley of the Missouri. A college is in little danger of thinking more highly of itself than it ought to think. No, this college holds a true Commencement this day; it has not only its charter, its organization, its faculty, its students, its property, its history; it has its body of alumni, too. It has a right to stand in the goodly fellowship of American colleges and universities. Is it young? So were they. Is it poor? It is affluently rich compared

with their grinding early poverty. Is its faculty small and the concourse of students few? It has more teachers and pupils than any of our great colleges began with, a century or two ago. Hear Oliver Wendell Holmes in a sportive strain sing of the infant Harvard, now the thronged, the famous, the wealthy university:

‘And who were on the catalogue
When college was begun?
Two nephews of the President,
And the Professor’s son.
Lord, how the Seniors knocked about
The Freshman class of one!’ ”

Though the life of Edward H. Pound was destined to be brief, nevertheless, the College has reason to be proud of her first alumnus, and to be well pleased that it was her fortune to have him as the first in the line of a thousand years. After taking his theological training at Andover, Mr. Pound became pastor of a church in Nebraska, where he did faithful, efficient work, until his health compelled him to remove to California, where, for some time, he continued in the work of the ministry; but, finally, on June 8, 1893, he died of consumption, leaving behind the memory of a true and noble life.

The college year 1887-8 was marked by a number of changes in the Faculty. Professor A. F. Bartlett resigned his position in the City schools, in order to give his full time and strength to his work in the College, holding the position of Professor of Physics and Mathematics, and Principal of the Preparatory and Normal

Departments. The Professorship of Greek, resigned by Professor E. C. Norton, was filled by the election of W. J. McMurtry, M. A., a graduate of Olivet College and of the University of Michigan, who had just completed a year of study in the American School at Athens, Greece. Professor McMurtry, for a time, acted as Instructor in Philosophy, in addition to the work in Greek. He is still connected with the institution, being Dean of the Faculty and Professor of Greek and Philosophy. H. H. Swain, M. A., a graduate of Beloit College, was appointed Instructor in History and English Literature, receiving the Professorship of the same subjects in the following year. Professor Swain remained with the College a considerable number of years, his Professorship later becoming that of History and Political Economy. He played a large and important part in the life and development of the institution, especially after the death of President Ward. Mrs. Frances D. Wilder, a graduate of Oberlin, was given the position of Preceptress and Instructor in German. Miss Louise Hanum, a graduate of Wellesley, became Assistant in the Normal Department, and Instructor in French. The Faculty was now larger and stronger than ever before.

During this year, the following innovations were introduced regarding tuitions and scholarships. By a change in the Territorial law, a number of institutions, of which Yankton College was one, were authorized to give a Normal Course to students, who should number not less than ten nor more than twenty-five, and whose tuition should be paid by the Territory.

This provision remained in force until the advent of statehood. Its effect was, for the time being, to add somewhat to the dignity and standing of the Normal work. Moreover, the College offered free tuition, throughout the regular college course, to one graduate of high scholarship and character from any high school in Dakota or Nebraska. The same privilege was extended to one additional student from each county in Dakota and Nebraska. Of course, the object of this system of scholarships was to increase the number of students taking the regular college courses; and, doubtless, it did considerable to promote this end. However, after the system had been in vogue for some years, it became evident to the Trustees that the institution could not afford to be so generous. Accordingly, in a short time, the county scholarships were restricted to one year's free tuition, though it might be secured in either the Preparatory Department or the College. Still later, the county scholarships were entirely abolished; and the high school scholarships were limited to one year.

In November of this year, a second Congregational college, located at Redfield, in the northern part of what later became South Dakota, was opened for work, with nine students in attendance at the beginning. The original intention had been that the Redfield institution should be an academy, serving as a preparatory school for Yankton. But later, the more ambitious plan of establishing a college prevailed — an outcome that was viewed with strong disfavor by those who

were most interested in Yankton's growth and development. They felt that the establishment of two colleges by the same denomination, in a sparsely settled, undeveloped commonwealth, could only tend to the enfeeblement of both, and to the discouragement of that outside support and aid upon which each would, necessarily, be largely dependent. The plea put forward by the supporters of the new enterprise at Redfield was the remoteness of Yankton from the more northern portions of the Territory (and State), and the consequent weakening of the aspirations of young people living there toward a higher education.

Another event occurred, during this year, that is an index at the same time of development within the various institutions of higher learning in the Territory, and also of a growing tendency toward mutual relationship. At a meeting held at Brookings, on November 6, of representatives of Sioux Falls University, Dakota Agricultural College, the University of Dakota, at Vermillion, Dakota University, at Mitchell, and Yankton College, the Dakota Collegiate Oratorical Association was organized, and a constitution adopted. Mr. H. W. Jamison represented Yankton, and served as Secretary of the meeting. According to the constitution, the purpose of the organization was "to develop and maintain a high standard of oratorical excellence in the colleges composing this association, by means of an annual contest as hereinafter provided." The first officers elected were: A. Lawrence (Agricultural College), President; Miss E. F. Rodgers (Dakota

University), Vice President; C. E. Weed (University of Dakota), Secretary and Treasurer. It was decided that the first annual contest should be held at Sioux Falls, in the following May. This association later became transformed into the South Dakota Inter-collegiate Oratorical Association; and its annual contests, together with those of the Inter-collegiate Athletic Association, formed later, have ever since constituted one of the great events of the college year. In order to meet the requirements of the Inter-collegiate Association, a local association, known as the Yankton College Oratorical Association, was formed, with the following officers: G. D. Wilder, President; Alice Kingsbury, Vice President; E. A. Chase, Secretary; C. C. Gross, Treasurer. In the local contest, held April 20, the following students participated: H. W. Jamison, A. W. Owen, G. D. Wilder, and E. A. Chase. Mr. Wilder was given first place, and, consequently, represented the College in the first Inter-collegiate Contest, at Sioux Falls, the outcome of which was, from the Yankton point of view, a sad disappointment. The first place was won by Sioux Falls University.

It has already been stated that the need most pressingly felt, at this period in the history of the College, was a building that should serve as a dormitory for the young women, and should also furnish facilities for carrying on the boarding department of the institution, including kitchen and dining hall. On more than one occasion, the Trustees had expressed their sense of this need by passing resolutions in favor of taking

active steps to supply it, by the construction of a suitable building. However, the financial condition confronting them made the carrying out of their resolutions a matter of extreme difficulty. But it was felt that something must be done, if the institution was to continue to grow and prosper. Accordingly, on April 23, the Board voted to proceed immediately to the construction of a brick building, the cost of which should not exceed ten thousand dollars. A building committee was appointed, consisting of J. C. McVay, Rev. H. D. Wiard, J. M. Fogerty, H. H. Smith, and President Ward *ex officio*. Nevertheless, it is entirely probable, yes, practically certain, that this resolution would have suffered the fate of its predecessors, had not most efficient allies been found in the ladies of the Congregational church, under the efficient leadership of Mrs. J. C. McVay and Mrs. W. H. McVay. It was decided to hold a bazaar in Turner Hall, in order to secure means for starting the building. So vigorously did the ladies prosecute this scheme, by soliciting contributions from friends far and near, that before the bazaar itself was opened to the public, more than twelve hundred dollars in cash had been received. The total proceeds of the enterprise were about five thousand dollars. Another means devised for adding to the building fund was the holding of a mock Republican National Convention. Professor Swain was chosen as leader of the plan, acting in the capacity of Chairman of the National Central Committee. The convention was held in Turner Hall, on the evenings of May 25

and 26. A large number of prominent citizens were enlisted in the undertaking; and, owing to their assistance, the affair was made really significant, from an educational standpoint. Turner Hall was crowded both evenings; and much interest and enthusiasm were manifested. There were the usual badges and banners; and inspiring music was contributed by the Knights of Pythias Band. The nominating speeches were eloquent and able; and there were earnest discussions of the political questions that were then most debated, for example, Civil Service Reform, Prohibition, Woman's Suffrage, the Tariff, and other subjects. The final result was to give the nomination for President to Walter Q. Gresham; for Vice President, to Chauncey M. Depew — an outcome which, in its latter half, gives one a curious feeling of surprise.

The result of the efforts put forth by the ladies was so substantial that the Trustees felt justified in going ahead with their building plan; and, accordingly, the ceremony of "breaking ground" was held on May 21, the Trustees, Faculty, students, and friends of the institution joining in removing the first spadefuls of earth. The account of the occasion in *The Student* says: "Little Margaret Ward and Caroline Shaw represented the students of the twentieth century in this work. Father Nichols preserved for the museum the first spadeful of earth, which was taken out by the President." The work of construction was actively begun on June 2.

Another of the encouraging features of this year was the large increase in the size of the library. From

something over fifteen hundred volumes, the number reached the respectable figure of over three thousand, by the end of the year.

At the meeting of the Corporation, held June 6, it was decided to increase materially the membership of this body, in order, thereby, to foster a wider interest in the College, on the part both of the Congregational churches and of individuals. Accordingly, the Corporation elected nineteen new members, in addition to the eleven already existent, and also voted to request the General Association of Congregational Churches to nominate seven additional members, to represent the local associations. Of the new members selected, a few were residents of Yankton; but the great majority lived in various towns throughout the southern portion of the Territory. Sioux City, Iowa, had two representatives. Among the new members were Rev. D. F. Bradley, pastor of the Yankton Congregational church, who was soon to take a prominent place in the administration of the affairs of the College; Robert J. Gamble, of Yankton, who soon became a Trustee; and Hon. Bartlett Tripp, of Yankton, for many years a Trustee, a position that he still occupies. Among them, too, was the late James H. Kyle, at that time a Congregational minister, located at Ipswich, later Financial Agent of the College, and destined, like Mr. Gamble, to attain the high position of United States senator.

The Commencement exercises of the year occurred on Wednesday, June 6. The class — the second to graduate — consisted of three young men — Benjamin

Wade Burleigh, of Yankton; Frederick Bartlett Riggs, of Santee Agency, Nebraska, and Gustav Gottlieb Wenzlaff, of Yankton. The subject of Mr. Burleigh's oration was "The Sphere of the Statesman;" of Mr. Riggs', "The New Africa;" of Mr. Wenzlaff's, "Philosophy in the Practical." The Commencement address was delivered by Rev. Joseph T. Duryea, D. D., pastor of the Central Church, Boston, Massachusetts. His subject was "The True Aim of a Christian College." This year, for the first time, the Department of Music was represented by graduates, three young women having completed the course in Piano, and being awarded diplomas, namely: Annette V. Bruce, Minnie Jencks, and Jennie D. Ketchum. Each of these had a musical part on the Commencement program.

This year witnessed the launching of a new enterprise, in close connection with the College, namely: a Summer Theological Institute, the purpose of which was to give special opportunities for instruction in theological, religious, and ethical subjects to those, especially ministers, who desired to avail themselves of such advantages. The sessions of the Institute opened shortly after Commencement, and continued for about two weeks. The instruction was given in the form of lectures by prominent Eastern scholars and clergymen. During its three years of existence, the Institute numbered among its lecturers such well known Congregational scholars and leaders of that period as Dr. J. T. Duryea and Dr. A. H. Quint, of Boston; President Fairchild, Professor G. F. Wright, and Dr. James

Brand, of Oberlin; Professor Blaisdell, of Beloit; Dr. Meredith, of Brooklyn, and others. This institute was the forerunner of a similar one that has held its sessions at the College during the past two summers.

The year 1888-9 opened with but slight changes in the Faculty, the teaching force of the Department of Music being strengthened by the addition of Mr. Franklin L. Stead, as Teacher of Piano and Organ. Mr. Stead was afterwards appointed Professor of Music and Director of the Musical Department — a position which he held for a considerable time, during which he did much for the upbuilding of the Department.

Work on Ladies' Hall continued through the summer; and a local in *The Student* for October conveys the information that the walls were rising rapidly, the foundation and interior walls of the basement having been completed. Unfortunately, circumstances so shaped themselves that a considerable time was destined to elapse before this greatly needed addition to the equipment of the institution became available. When winter came on, work was stopped, the building being enclosed and the floor of the second story serving as a roof. Since lack of funds prevented the renewal of the work, when spring came, the structure remained for some time in this condition. On May 6, considerable damage was done by a violent storm of wind and rain, after which work was resumed; but the building was not ready for use at the opening of the following college year; nor was it occupied until the commencement of the winter term.

In the October issue of *The Student*, appears a communication from Mr. Bradley, interesting as conveying the impressions of the College received at that time by one who had good opportunity for observation, and yet occupied the position, largely, of an outsider. Among other things he says:

"Yankton College is an actual, not a nominal college. Its ten teachers are all present, and at work in the flesh, and not merely in the catalogue. Its one hundred and nine students are all present, and can stand up and be counted; they are not dim reminiscences or future possibilities. And the work done is real college and academic work. The students are not here to ornament the town, but to study and be questioned and examined. Yankton College teaches what it advertises to teach, and does it by means of teachers who are neither here for their health nor for a short visit to the Territory; and if the truth be told, it will appear that the Faculty of the College is not here for the money there is in the salaries. The marvel is that the accomplished men and women who are giving their time to this work can be retained on such salaries. They do not have to stay here. Some of them gave up lucrative positions to work in the College. All of them could command higher salaries elsewhere. But they stay here and faithfully do their work, and put up with all sorts of inconveniences, while they do it. Yankton College is a standing miracle of what faith and courage and devotion to a good cause can do, with very little to do with."

Early in the year, the Trustees gave favorable consideration to a plan that was strongly favored by Dr. Ward, namely: the addition of a theological department to the College. Besides his strong interest in the preparation of young men for the work of the ministry, the President was of the opinion that the existence of such a department, in connection with the regular work of the College, would tend to incline Christian people in the East to contribute to its support. Moreover, he was quite confident that Dr. Duryea, of Boston, would favorably consider a call to take charge of this work. However, Dr. Duryea decided to accept a call to the pastorate of the First Congregational Church of Omaha. This fact put a check upon the attempt to carry out the plan; and Dr. Ward's loss of health and subsequent death caused the scheme to be utterly abandoned.

Clear tokens appear that the financial burden was becoming heavier and heavier. It was finally decided that, in order to pay debts and provide for immediate necessities, a loan of twenty thousand dollars must be secured. At length, through the negotiations of President Ward, a loan for that amount was secured from Rev. Charles Ray Palmer, D. D., of Bridgeport, Connecticut, with a mortgage upon the property of the College as security. In the following summer, an additional loan of seven thousand dollars was secured from the same gentleman, and another of two thousand, some months later. On the back cover of the April *Student*, appears the following announcement of the needs of the College: "Yankton College wants:

\$10,000 for an observatory.

7,000 to complete Ladies' Hall.

10,000 from South Dakota for current expenses.

200,000 for a permanent endowment.

100 new students for the fall term.

One gift each year of *sure* amount from each friend of the College."

On the evening of April 23, occurred the most important event that had yet marked the history of the Department of Music, namely: the rendition of the Oratorio of The Messiah — a forerunner of the May Festivals that have, for a considerable number of years, constituted an important feature of the closing weeks of the college year. The importance of the occasion justifies the following quotation from the *May Student*:

"The Sacred Oratorio of The Messiah, which was rendered by the Yankton Choral Union on the evening of April 23, was one of the most important musical events that have ever happened in Dakota. This was the first performance of the grand Oratorio ever given in the Territory, and it was superbly rendered, especially so considering the number of performers. The ladies' parts were well sustained; the gentlemen were weak only in numbers. The manner in which the several choruses were rendered, was very gratifying. With great care was the conductor watched, and changes of *tempo* were promptly obeyed. Among the audience were some impartial listeners, who had heard the Oratorio before, and who declared this rendition superior in many respects."

Early in May, came the second Inter-collegiate Con-

test in Oratory, and in connection therewith the first Inter-collegiate Contest in Athletics. In the latter, Yankton did not participate; but in the former, her representative — Mr. Elmer A. Chase — carried off first honors. Added interest was given to this contest by the fact that the Drake Company, of Sioux Falls, presented a beautiful and valuable slab of polished chalcedony to the Association, with the understanding that the college whose representative should win first place, should retain possession of the slab during that year; and that it should become the permanent possession of the institution winning the greatest number of victories in the period of five years, afterwards extended to seven. The names of the victors and their colleges were to be inscribed upon it. Accordingly, the name of Mr. Chase, of Yankton College, was the first to be inscribed. The succeeding names are as follows: F. H. Clarke, Dakota University, 1890. A. C. Shepherd, Dakota University, 1891. J. W. Barrington, Redfield College, 1892. T. A. Stubbins, Yankton College, 1893. A. L. Wilcox, Yankton College, 1894. A. B. Rowell, Yankton College, 1895. By virtue of this record, the slab came into the permanent possession of Yankton College, and now hangs as a highly prized trophy upon the walls of the Chapel.

The college year 1889-90 was destined to be an eventful and critical period in the history of the institution, by reason of the death of the man upon whose shoulders had rested the main burden of its maintenance and continued progress.

A number of changes occurred in the Faculty at this time. Albert T. Free, M. A., a graduate of the University of Iowa, was elected Professor of Mineralogy, Geology, and Chemistry; Emma L. Parsons, M. A., took the place of Mrs. Wilder as Preceptress, and also served as Instructor in English; Gustav G. Wenzlaff, B. A., a member of the class of 1888, was appointed Instructor. Mr. Wenzlaff was the first alumnus of the College to be given a position on the Faculty. In addition to the teaching of German, he was given the work in Philosophy, ranking as Instructor in German and Philosophy. The vacancies in the Musical Department, caused by the resignation of Mr. and Mrs. Young, were filled by the appointment of Mr. John Randolph as Teacher of Voice, and of Miss Minnie Jencks, a graduate of the Department, as Assistant Teacher of Piano. Rev. Clinton Douglas had been elected by the Trustees to serve as Field Agent, his work being directed to the end of securing new students and contributions to the current-expense and endowment funds. Mrs. A. L. Camfield became Matron, owing to the death of Mrs. Dawson.

CHAPTER IV

THE DEATH OF PRESIDENT WARD

The health of Dr. Ward had become so seriously impaired, partly owing to the germs of disease implanted in his system during military service in the Civil War, partly to the anxiety and strain connected with his arduous labors in securing financial support for the College, that he was obliged to give up active work, and could not, as heretofore, betake himself to the East for the purpose of soliciting funds. Indeed, it was only too clear that, though he was in the prime of life, being only in his fifty-second year, he was face to face with the necessity of regarding his life's work as finished. And truly, it was a heart-breaking necessity for one so profoundly interested in his work — a work which he could only feel to be well begun, with great difficulties yet to be overcome. Then, too, there was his family, consisting mainly of young children, very scantily provided for. Nevertheless, this hard situation was met with uncomplaining Christian fortitude. The immediate occasion of his death was not, however, the deep-seated disease, to which reference has already been made; late in November, a carbuncle developed, which his weakened condition made him unable to resist; and the end came on December 11. His last words of farewell to members of the Faculty were full of desire and

solicitude for the future well-being of the College he had loved and served so faithfully.

To those who were most intimately connected with the College, and most concerned for its future, Dr. Ward's death brought feelings of dismay and foreboding. While he was still living, it seemed impossible to realize that his power to work for the upbuilding of the institution was already fatally impaired. But now, all hope of aid from his large mind and warm heart was gone. Nevertheless, there were not wanting brave souls to take courage from Dr. Ward's own words, that though men pass away, the work must go on. Obviously, an unusual burden of responsibility rested upon the Trustees in this crisis; and faithfully did they strive to carry it. The Board, at that time, consisted of the following gentlemen: V. V. Barnes, J. M. Fogerty, Rev. W. B. D. Gray, E. Miner, J. C. McVay, Rev. D. B. Nichols, Rev. A. L. Riggs, D. D., and Rev. H. D. Wiard. Mr. R. J. Gamble, of Yankton, was elected to fill the place on the Board made vacant by the death of Dr. Ward. Dr. Riggs was chosen to fill the responsible position of President of the Board, which Dr. Ward had held from the first. He had but recently been elected to the Board; and his election as President was an expression of the confidence that was felt in the soundness of his judgment, and his fidelity to the interests of the institution. Nor was that confidence misplaced. In the trying years that followed, he was a tower of strength, always calm, clear-headed, utterly loyal to his conviction of what was best for the College. To

no one of the many faithful men who have served her as Trustees, does she owe a greater debt of gratitude than to Dr. Riggs. It is a matter of profound regret that, though he is still an honored member of the Board, the weight of advancing years and enfeebled health have deprived the College, in large part, of his wise counsels.

Immediately upon Dr. Ward's death, the Faculty, by unanimous vote, requested the Trustees to appoint Rev. D. F. Bradley, pastor of the Congregational church, to the position of Acting President of the College. To this request the Board promptly acceded. This step again put the right man in the right place. Mr. Bradley was a man of boundless energy and enthusiasm, and strongly interested in the success of the College. To the unhesitating devotion of these qualities to the service of the institution, is due, in large measure, the fact that its progress was not seriously crippled by the disaster that had befallen it.

The Trustees furthermore voted that an attempt should be made to raise a fund of \$160,000 — to be known as the Ward Memorial Fund — at least two-thirds of which was to be used as a permanent endowment. At a subsequent meeting, it was decided to increase the proposed amount of this fund to \$300,000. It was hoped that the great interest in the institution that had been aroused by Dr. Ward's untimely death, might be the means of freeing it from debt, and putting it upon a safe financial footing for the future. Although vigorous efforts were put forth to realize this hope, and

different persons were sent East at various times for the purpose of enlisting the aid, both direct and indirect, of Dr. Ward's friends, nevertheless, the plan proved an impracticable one, only a comparatively small sum being secured. The largest amount — four thousand dollars — was contributed by Mr. J. H. Towne, of Salem, Massachusetts, a warm friend of Dr. Ward, who had before given generously. Another of these early benefactors of the institution, who deserves to be held in lasting remembrance, is Mrs. Skinner, of Perry Center, New York, whose son was an early friend and companion of Dr. Ward. Having become interested in the College through an address of Dr. Ward's, telling about the newly-founded institution, she decided to leave her estate, of twenty to twenty-five thousand dollars, to the College at her death. Afterwards, she gave two thousand acres of land in Kansas and South Dakota. Unfortunately, after her death, her will was contested and set aside; so that her intentions were not carried out as she had designed.

The January issue of *The Student* was made a memorial number in honor of Dr. Ward, and contains numerous testimonials from teachers, classmates, friends, and associates, showing the very high esteem and affection with which he was regarded. From these, I shall quote only a few sentences, conveying typical expressions of judgment. Mr. E. D. C. McKay, an early teacher of Dr. Ward, to whom he was wont to attribute a large measure of whatever was good in his life, wrote as follows:

“Considered altogether, in his intellectual makeup, his tone and elevation of character, and his breadth and his soundness of judgment, he was the strongest and most promising young man I had ever met. In the long stretch of years since then, among all the young men — some thousands — I have observed in college and elsewhere, reckoning him on the broadest and clearest lines that point to high usefulness and value as a man, I certainly have known very few who would rank with him.”

Dr. C. F. P. Bancroft, at that time Principal of Phillips Academy at Andover, who, as has been stated, gave the first Commencement address at Yankton, and who was a fellow-student of Dr. Ward at Andover, wrote:

“As a theological student he showed the same traits which made him subsequently the effective home missionary, the faithful pastor, the enterprising and sagacious college president. There was the same candor of judgment, the same frankness and openness of expression, quickness of sympathy, the abounding good humor, fertility of resources, the same turn for practical business, the same integrity and solidity of character, and robust and gracious piety. Those who knew what Dr. Ward was in Dakota can readily understand what he must have been in the Seminary.”

The following is from Judge H. J. Campbell, of Yankton, closely associated with Dr. Ward in the struggle for Division and Statehood:

“It is a significant fact that, at any time, had he been willing, the popular sentiment would have chosen him

as one of South Dakota's first United States senators. But he had no selfish ambitions. His sphere of duties commanded him in an opposite direction, to the sacrifice of ease, wealth, and finally life, and he peremptorily and absolutely declined to allow his name to be urged in that connection."

Professor John T. Shaw, of the College Faculty, associated with Dr. Ward from the very beginning of his work as President, wrote thus:

"The years which Joseph Ward gave to Yankton College, were, without doubt, the richest and most fruitful of a rich and fruitful life. They were the years in which he was most widely known, the years in which his influence was widest, the years in which he gathered in from most various sources that strength which went into the founding and upbuilding of this last achievement of his life. Yankton College, like so much else that is good in South Dakota, is the work of Dr. Ward. This is not to say that there would have been no college established by the churches but for him; for that has become the settled policy of the Congregational churches. But his commission from the Home Missionary Society, given when he came to Dakota twenty-one years ago, reminded him that the work of Christian education went hand in hand with the work of planting churches, and he never lost sight of that part of his mission. From the beginning, then, he had been identified with the work of education, always looking to the time when a Christian College should be the crown and consummation of that work. Early, there-

fore, he urged upon the churches the application to the situation here of the policy mentioned above, and urged it successfully."

Another clear indication of the large place that Dr. Ward had come to fill at Yankton and in Dakota, is furnished by a memorial meeting, held in honor of his memory at Yankton, January 28, 1890. The call for this meeting, which was held in Turner Hall, with the Mayor of the City as presiding officer, says; "All citizens of Yankton are respectfully invited to show by their presence that respect for the memory of Dakota's greatest and noblest citizen and one of Yankton's best and truest friends which they all cherish so profoundly in their hearts." The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. E. E. Clough, pastor of the Methodist church of Yankton. The main address of the evening was delivered by Rev. J. T. Duryea, D. D., of Omaha. It was a searching application of the lesson of Dr. Ward's life to the life of Yankton. An original poem was read by Mr. A. B. Wilcox. Afterwards, brief addresses were made by Judge Campbell, Hon. Geo. H. Hand, and Hon. R. J. Gamble. Judge Campbell spoke of Dr. Ward as "the greatest man intellectually as well as morally, whom the two Dakotas have produced." Again, he says: "He was the most noble, loyal, faithful and royal soul whom I have ever met, whose more than kingly crown was the simple crown of service to you, to me, to all of us." Still again, he says: "If South Dakota ever rears in her mansion of statehood any statues in memory of any of her sons, who have done

the state signal service in critical times of danger, and have helped most to shape her destiny for good, foremost and highest among them all, will stand the noble, genial, powerful form of Joseph Ward." Mr. Hand, in the course of his remarks, said: "I know that one of the best governors Dakota ever had — Governor Howard — frequently consulted Dr. Ward on public matters; and I myself, while acting as Governor after the death of the lamented Mr. Howard, availed myself of the counsel and wisdom of our departed friend. He was not only a true friend, but a safe and conscientious adviser." Mr. R. J. Gamble, speaking as a member of the Board of Trustees, forcibly presented the claims of the College upon the city of Yankton for substantial financial assistance in this critical point of its history. I quote a few of his statements:

"It was the location of this institution that governed the selection of the largest investor in city property last year. Its growth and prosperity is a certain enhancement to the property in its neighborhood. The result of the last season certainly demonstrates it. But in itself it represents a property of considerable value in a city of not the largest commercial claims. The real estate, outside of buildings, at a moderate estimate, is well worth \$45,000; its buildings, \$35,000; its personal property, \$30,000 more. This makes a total of \$110,000. As a means of bringing to and distributing annually in the city, it is entitled to respectful consideration. Its pay-roll to professors and teachers amounts annually to \$12,000; there is annually expended by the

students \$20,000; while fuel, lights, and incidentals will aggregate \$2,000, giving a total of \$34,000. It is largely with us to say what the future of the institution will be. The seer who largely carried its responsibilities, and made it so much, can do so no longer; others must assume their part, or the work will not be done. This institution, like all institutions of like age and limited endowment, is in peril. No such institution is or can be self-supporting. The income from tuition at the best is limited, and of little consequence to its main support. It is a constant alms-taker, and will always be needy until a sufficient endowment is secured. Yankton has always been generous in its support of the College from its organization. To be crippled now, in the full tide of its prosperity, would be a calamity, from which it would take years to recuperate. To strengthen it now would be to send it on with higher hopes for its future; and it would demonstrate to its more distant friends that its benefits are appreciated here, and its responsibilities assumed, as well."

CHAPTER V

THE INTERREGNUM (1889-1892)

A joint committee of the Trustees and Faculty was appointed, charged with the duty of securing a successor to Dr. Ward. But it was a difficult task to induce a man of the requisite qualifications to accept the presidency of a new institution heavily burdened with debt. Though a number of different gentlemen were tendered the position, in the course of the next two years, none saw his way clear to acceptance.

To the great joy of everybody directly connected with the College, the long-deferred and much-desired completion of Ladies' Hall, made it possible to occupy the building at the opening of the winter term. This event marked a great improvement by providing a comfortable and pleasant domicile for the young women, and also a cheerful dining room, in place of the gloomy and inconvenient basement of Middle Hall, for those who patronized the College Boarding Department. The deserted basement was later fitted up as a gymnasium, and doubtless did something to stimulate interest in Physical Training and Athletics. Nevertheless, *The Student* continues to voice frequent complaints as to the unsatisfactory condition of that line of College activities. The first intercollegiate game of football occurred in the preceding November, the game being played

north of the old Milwaukee depot against the State University team. The writer has a very distinct recollection of that game, which was the first that most of us had seen. Dr. Ward was present, accompanied by General Beadle, then of Yankton, now of Madison, and Dr. McLouth, at that time President of the Agricultural College at Brookings. The result of the contest was a crushing defeat for Yankton, making it entirely clear that the new-fangled game was far from being mastered by the Yankton athletes. In the following year, the athletic situation was considerably improved by the re-organization of the Olympian Athletic Association, which had taken the place of the defunct Athlon Club. The plan was adopted of putting all athletic matters in charge of this organization — an arrangement which continued for a considerable number of years. Of the re-organized Association, the officers were: J. F. Hall, President; E. Burgi, Vice-President; E. F. Himes, Secretary -Treasurer; G. W. Nash, Captain of First Nine.

In July, 1890, Rev. J. H. Kyle, at that time pastor of the Congregational church of Aberdeen, was appointed by the Trustees Financial Agent of the College. His work was to be especially the securing of contributions to the Ward Memorial Fund. In the Fall, Mr. Kyle went East for this purpose, and gave every promise of proving himself an energetic and successful solicitor. However, his activities in this line of work were destined to be brief; inasmuch as the Legislature of South Dakota, after an exciting contest, elected Mr. Kyle to

the high position of United States senator. In a Fourth of July address, he had expressed views which won the warm approval of the Populist members of the Legislature, who controlled the situation. When brought face to face with the issues that were then being debated in the Senate, Mr. Kyle gradually assumed the position of an Independent Republican, and slowly but surely won for himself the respect both of his fellow-senators and of the people of his state. After a very successful term, he was re-elected, but died during his second term.

One result of the real estate boom that Yankton experienced during that period of its history, was the building of a street railway on Douglas Avenue, from Third Street to the Cemetery. It was a convenience for down-town students, while it continued in active operation; but the movement to which its origin was due, did not prove to be permanent; and after a time, the two cars constituting the rolling stock ceased their perambulations; and, finally, the track was removed.

One member of the Faculty — Professor A. T. Free — possessed considerable political influence, having previously served as a member of the Territorial Board of Education. During this year, the Governor of the newly formed State of South Dakota, appointed him a member of the Board of Trustees of the State University; and, in the following year, he became one of the Board of Regents, and Chairman of the committee in charge of the University.

The year 1890-91 opened with but few changes in the

Faculty list. Professor Bartlett was granted leave of absence for one year, his place being filled by the appointment of Fred F. Thwing, B. A., a recent Oberlin graduate, as Instructor in Mathematics, Physics, and Astronomy. Alice R. Kingsbury, B. A., who constituted the class of 1890, received the position of Instructor in French. Miss Kingsbury was a student of the institution almost at the beginning, and is still a member of the Faculty, occupying the chair of French and German. Her connection with the College exceeds in duration that of any other person.

Owing to election to the United States Senate of Mr. Kyle, the Financial Agent of the College, the Trustees decided to send Professor Free to the East, to continue there Mr. Kyle's work in behalf of the financial interests of the institution. The stress of the financial situation was greatly relieved by reason of the fact that the Congregational Education Society agreed to contribute \$8,000 per year toward the current expenses, on condition that the College authorities should provide the additional sum of \$5333.00. In truth, this agreement, faithfully observed until the financial condition became materially improved, was of vital importance to the institution; and it owes a lasting debt of gratitude to this Society. An additional condition upon which the Society consented to this arrangement, was that Professor Free should be given a year's leave of absence, in order that he might work in New England as an Assistant Secretary of the Society.

One of this year's signs of progress was the organiza-

tion of a new literary society — the Thegn — membership in which was to be confined exclusively to young men belonging to the College proper. This society has survived down to the present time; though it now has a brother-society — the Adelphian — for College men. The annual banquet of the Thegns, held for quite a number of years, on the evening of Washington's birthday, was, during its continuance, the most notable event of the year in the social life of the College. In this, the first year of its existence, the society immortalized itself by producing an original drama, written by one of its members — Mr. James F. Hall — and played by Mr. Hall and his fellow Thegns. The play was brought out not only in the College Chapel, in Middle Hall, but also down town, in Turner Hall.

An amendment was made in the by-laws this year whereby it was stipulated that the members of the Corporate Board should not exceed fifty in number, a majority of whom were to be members of Congregational churches; furthermore, that, of the total number, the Alumni Association might nominate five from their own membership. Another innovation was the election of two ladies to the Board — Mrs. Hattie Phillips, of Sioux Falls, and Mrs. Sarah F. Ward, of Yankton, the widow of Dr. Ward. Another new feature of the year was an anticipation of the later form of Commencement exercises, namely: the substitution of a Commencement address by some prominent speaker from abroad for the usual orations and essays of the graduating class, the place of the latter being taken by Class Day exercises

and theses. On this occasion, however, the theses were omitted; and the energies of the class were all devoted to the Class Day exercises, with the result that they were of a high standard of excellence. This class, which was the largest that had yet graduated, consisted of four young men: James F. Hall, Henry W. Jamison, Harry R. Miner, and George W. Nash, and two young women: Abbie I. Phillips and Anna Marie Wenzlaff. The Commencement address was given by Rev. James G. Johnson, D. D., of Chicago. An important step forward was taken by the organization of the Alumni Association, whose first official action was to establish a prize of twenty-five dollars for the young women's declamation contest, known as the Alumni Prize.

The year 1891-2 was marked by an unusual number of changes in the Faculty. Acting President Bradley felt obliged to resign his position, in order to meet the demands of his pastoral work; and, in consequence, Professor H. H. Swain became, for the year, the executive head of the school, as Dean of the Faculty, discharging the duties of the position with marked efficiency. To the great regret of everybody connected with the College, Professor Shaw resigned the Professorship of Latin at the close of the preceding year, in order to become the head of the Latin department in the Academy of Oberlin College, a position which he still occupies. As one of the original Faculty, he had exercised a marked influence upon the life and development of the College in its early days. Mr. Edward A. Bechtel, a graduate of Johns Hopkins, was appointed Acting Professor of

Latin. As has already been mentioned, Professor Free had been given a year's leave of absence, in order that he might engage in financial work in the East. To fill the gap, Dexter P. Nicholson, M. S., a graduate of Lawrence University, who had taken graduate work at Johns Hopkins, was appointed Instructor in Natural Sciences. Mr. J. F. Hall, a member of the graduating class, who had shown decided literary talent as editor of *The Student* and in other ways, received the appointment of Instructor in English, a position which he filled with great success for two years, at the end of which time he was given the position of Professor of Rhetoric and English Literature, with leave of absence for one year to be spent in graduate study. His health had already become impaired; and he was able to pursue his studies at Stanford University for only a brief time. His untimely death, occurring October 14, 1894, was deeply regretted by all who knew him, because of his endowments and large promise of future usefulness. The work in Art had been discontinued for a number of years, but was now resumed, with Miss Minnie A. Baldwin, a graduate of Carleton College, as Teacher of Drawing and Painting. Misses Nettie M. Danielson and Bernice E. Hall appear as new instructors in the Conservatory of Music.

At a meeting of the Board of Trustees held on January 13, Mr. E. L. Clarke, a resident of the State, who had become interested in the College, proposed that he should, at his own expense, construct an astronomical observatory, to be a memorial to his father, the late

Joseph B. Clarke, of Oberlin, Ohio. Needless to say, the offer was gladly and thankfully accepted. However, owing to later developments in the financial situation, the realization of the plan was deferred for a time. In the meanwhile, the lack of an observatory was being supplied through the kindness of Mr. J. T. M. Pierce, at that time a citizen of Yankton, who had constructed a small private observatory, which he freely put at the service of the classes in Astronomy.

Mr. Clarke's generous proposal brought much of encouragement, which was vastly increased by the fact that, about the first of March, Dr. D. K. Pearsons, a wealthy Chicago capitalist, who had decided to dispose of the bulk of his fortune in strengthening the financial foundations of such colleges as seemed to him especially worthy of such aid, submitted a proposal to the following effect: "I will give to Yankton College a science hall costing \$50,000, provided the friends of the College will pay its debts and raise an endowment of \$100,000 before July, 1893." Dr. Pearsons' willingness to extend help to the College at this time was doubtless due, mainly, to the fact that Dr. Ward had come in contact with him previous to his death. At their last interview, Dr. Pearsons said that "he would do something for Yankton College." Through the clouds of discouragement due to the harassing debt and uncertainty as to the future of the institution, came a bright gleam of hope. Nevertheless, it was evident that the hope could be realized only by herculean efforts on the part of those responsible for the financial interests of the

institution, and by the most generous giving on the part of all its friends. The accumulated debts, of which the largest item was the mortgages upon the College property held by Dr. Charles R. Palmer, with their unpaid interest, now amounted to a sum well on toward \$50,000. To meet Dr. Pearsons' offer, therefore, meant the securing of about \$150,000 — a task which past experience had shown to be no easy matter.

At a meeting of the Trustees, held March 1, on the unanimous recommendation of the Faculty, it was voted to confer the presidency of the institution upon Albert Tallman Free, M. A., Professor of Mineralogy and Geology. Those most intimately connected with the College had come to feel strongly that to continue longer without a recognized and responsible head of the institution was extremely undesirable. Furthermore, it appeared practically impossible to secure, in the immediate future, a man for the presidency of sufficient ability to justify the action. On the other hand, Professor Free had given indications of possessing capacities that were of extreme importance for meeting the conditions at that time existing.

At the same meeting, it was decided that the Preparatory Department of the College should henceforth be known as the Academy. It was intended that a clear line of separation should be drawn between it and the College proper, which had not hitherto been the case; looking forward to the speedy coming of the time when the Academy should have a separate building and faculty. In accordance with this policy, a Principal

of the Academy was engaged for the coming year, whose work was to be specifically the organization and development of that department of the institution. Moreover, the custom was introduced of having College chapel services and recitations in the forenoon, and those of the Academy in the afternoon; whereas, formerly, the chapel services had been held in common; and the recitations had gone on simultaneously. After two years' trial, this policy of separation was largely abandoned — an outcome to which various causes contributed. Whatever weight rightfully attached to the reasons for this reversal of policy — and doubtless, it was considerable — nevertheless, it is probable that a more strenuous effort to recognize the general difference in age, acquirements, and aims, of the two classes of students, would have been advantageous.

At the annual meeting of this year, the Corporate Board appointed a committee to confer with a committee of the General Association of Congregational Churches of South Dakota, for the purpose of devising some plan for securing and promoting a closer connection between the Corporate Board, as representing the College, and the Congregational churches of the State. The plan that was finally adopted, provided that the Corporate Board might include three members nominated by the General Association, and one member nominated by each of the local associations.

It was also decided that, for the present, the Ward residence should be devoted to the use of the Conservatory of Music and the Department of Art. The build-

ing was a substantial brick structure, erected by Dr. Ward in 1873 as his home; but after his death it had, for the time being, come into the possession of the College. There, the two departments found commodious quarters, though somewhat remote from the College, until the completion of Ward Hall made other arrangements possible.

It was decided by the Trustees to engage Rev. W. B. Hubbard, pastor of the Congregational church at Chamberlain, as Secretary of the College, and Mrs. Sarah F. Ward as Assistant Secretary for correspondence, her main duty to be the rendering of aid in securing contributions for meeting the conditions of Dr. Pearsons' offer.

CHAPTER VI

THE ADMINISTRATION OF PRESIDENT FREE (1892-1895)

With the beginning of the college year 1892-3, President Free took up in person the active duties of the presidency, occupying the position until the beginning of the college year 1895-6. This period of three years, covered by his administration, will be treated as a whole from two points of view: first, the more external and material events; second, the more internal, and, from the college point of view, more vital events.

The great problem of this period, overshadowing, to a large degree, everything else, was to devise ways and means for meeting the conditions imposed by Dr. Pearsons, thereby freeing the College from its crushing load of debt, making a good beginning on a permanent endowment, and securing a substantial and greatly needed addition to its equipment. Only so, it was clear, could the institution hope for continued life and growth. In view of the situation, it was decided by the Trustees, in the fall of 1892, that Mrs. Ward should go to the East, and endeavor to enlist the interest and co-operation of the friends of Dr. Ward. Though naturally reluctant to leave her young family, she, nevertheless, faithfully endeavored to carry out the wishes of the Trustees, and both at that time and later did effective and fruitful service. At home, a strong

helper was found in the person of Mr. E. L. Clarke, who, as has already been said, had promised the gift of an observatory, but wisely postponed the carrying out of this plan until Dr. Pearsons' offer should be disposed of. Toward this end, Mr. Clarke not only himself contributed a substantial sum, but also undertook, without compensation, to secure as large an amount as possible out in the State. Everybody interested in the success of the College — the governing Boards, Faculty, students, alumni, the Congregational churches — felt impelled to do their utmost in this crisis. Rev. G. W. Rexford, of Plankinton, did especially effective service by organizing the campaign among the Christian Endeavor Societies of the State. Rev. W. B. D. Gray, long a member of the Board of Trustees, proved himself to be a man of unusual capacity for this sort of effort; and his work in the State and in Yankton was crowned with large success. Mr. Gray had been a warm friend of Dr. Ward and of the College, from the time when he first came to Dakota. All of his four sons became students in the institution, three of them graduating, one of whom married a daughter of Dr. Ward. To Mr. Gray's strong will, clear judgment, and thorough and skillful planning, is the large degree of success that was ultimately achieved, primarily due. So vital was this success to the future welfare of the College that Mr. Gray must be ranked among the foremost of its benefactors.

When it became clear that the entire amount needed to pay off all debts, and to create an endowment fund

of \$100,000, could not be secured by the time specified in Dr. Pearsons' offer, namely: July 1, 1893, he consented to modify his proposition, promising that if by Commencement \$25,000 should have been contributed by Yankton, \$25,000 by people in the State, and the same amount by friends outside of the State, he would give \$25,000 for the construction of a science hall. Thanks to the vigorous efforts put forth by the workers already mentioned and by others, these conditions were more than met; and Commencement was made glad by the consciousness of so large a measure of success attained, and by the breaking of ground for the new building — Ward Hall of Science — so called at Dr. Pearsons' request, that it might serve as a memorial to Dr. Ward. The site of the new structure was marked out by a plow drawn by the hands of enthusiastic students. It was the universal feeling that a new era had dawned in the history of the College.

Appreciation of Mr. Clarke's services was manifested by his election to the Board of Trustees; while Mr. Gray was fortunately persuaded to give up his work as Superintendent of the work of the Congregational Sunday School and Publishing Society in South Dakota and Wyoming, in order to become General Treasurer of the College. Dr. Pearsons had indicated his desire that he might be enabled to pay over the remaining \$25,000 of his original offer by the raising of another \$75,000 on the part of the College. This was the great task entrusted to Mr. Gray, wherein he was to have the aid of Mrs. Ward. Certainly, the problem of placing

the institution upon a sound financial basis was no easy one. According to a report made by Mr. Gray to the Trustees on January 4, 1894, the current expenses for the year would amount to \$25,000; whereas the total income was only \$15,000. However, progress was made, in spite of difficulties, through Mr. Gray's energetic efforts. In the fall of 1894, an arrangement was made with the Congregational Education Society whereby that organization undertook to pay \$15,000 on the Palmer mortgages, provided the remainder, about \$20,000, should be paid by the College. At Commencement, 1895, Mr. Gray was able to report that, since September 1, debts of the College aggregating \$67,000 had been paid. This included the Palmer mortgages, amounting to \$34,000. Thus the heavy weight that had been so seriously impeding the onward progress of the institution was removed. Moreover, the endowment funds had now reached the respectable sum of more than \$50,000, though a large part of this amount was subject to shrinkage. The attainment of such large results was greatly aided by the fact that, because of generous gifts from other sources, the College was enabled to lay claim to Dr. Pearsons' second \$25,000. Of this sum, \$12,500 became a part of the productive permanent endowment. For this happy outcome, especially hearty thanks are due to two generous givers — Mrs. Charlotte M. Fiske and Rev. E. K. Alden, D. D. Mrs. Fiske, a wealthy lady of Boston, who, though an Episcopalian, had become strongly interested in the College through Mr. Gray, had already

given the sum of \$5000, subject to an annuity. To this sum she now added \$10,000, under like conditions. Moreover, she made a gift of \$5000, for the complete furnishing of Ward Hall, as a memorial to her husband, Joseph N. Fiske. In acknowledgment of this gift, the Chapel, which is located on the second floor of this building, is called "Fiske Assembly Room." The gift of Dr. Alden, at one time Secretary of the American Board of Foreign Missions, amounted to \$10,000, and came at a time when the whole effort to pay off the debt, and lay a foundation for a permanent endowment, was threatening to end in failure. It was, therefore, thrice welcome; nor was it the only token of Dr. Alden's interest in the institution, since the total of his gifts amounted to about \$16,000.

Upon the payment of the mortgages held by Dr. Palmer, a substantial gift was made by him to the College, in the form of a permanent fund of \$2500, to be known as the Alfred Barnes Palmer Library Fund, the income of which was to be used in making additions to the library. Dr. Palmer gave this fund as a memorial to his son, who had once visited the College in company with his father, and had on that occasion expressed a wish that he might do something for it. This fund has, indeed, been a great benefit to the institution, rendering it possible to add regularly, each year, a considerable number of the books for which the most pressing need is felt. The only other permanent resource for the enlargement of the library has been an annual gift of \$100 or more, which, almost from the beginning

of the existence of the College, has come from the "Governor Phillips Charitable Donation Fund," of Phillips Academy, Andover, Massachusetts. This money, however, by the terms of the gift, must be expended for religious books. To it is mainly due the large and valuable collection of works on religion and theology, to be found in the library.

In June, 1894, Mr. Clarke began the construction of the Observatory, completing it before cold weather came. While not a large building, it is substantially constructed of brick. A seven-inch telescope, costing \$1600, was given by Mr. A. C. Dakin. Mr. and Mrs. Dakin had repeatedly shown such a generous interest in the institution that it was decided to change the name of Ladies' Hall to Dakin Hall, in their honor.

At the close of the year 1894-5, Rev. E. M. Williams, D. D., at that time pastor of the Yankton Congregational church, became a member of the Corporate Board, and also of the Board of Trustees. During the remaining years of his stay in Yankton, Dr. Williams, who was a man of fine and generous spirit, took the deepest interest in the welfare of the institution, contributing to it of his means, his time, and his wise counsel. Deservedly, his name stands high in the roll of the College's truest friends.

We now turn to the more internal aspects and events of President Free's administration.

In the first year of this period, a number of important changes occurred in the Faculty. Mr. Wenzlaff was appointed Professor of German and Philosophy,

and was given a year's leave of absence for study, which he spent in the Universities of Berlin and Leipsic, taking up the duties of his Professorship at the opening of the following year. Mr. Thwing's place was filled by the election of Wayland S. Axtell, M. A., a graduate of Beloit College, as Professor of Mathematics and Physics. During the two years that Professor Axtell held the position, he proved himself a strong and effective teacher. Resigning at the end of two years, he died not long afterwards of consumption. Stephen Emery, B. A., a graduate of Boston University, was chosen Principal of the Academy, and entrusted with the task of inaugurating the new policy of separation. Mr. Emery, however, resigned at the close of the fall term. The position was filled by the election of George W. Nash, B. S., a member of the class of 1891. Mr. Nash showed remarkable capacity for administrative work, and held the position for a considerable number of years, being afterwards appointed Professor of Mathematics and Astronomy. The work in Latin was carried on by Mr. Bechtel for only one year. Miss Edith M. Hall, a graduate of DePauw University, and sister of J. F. Hall, was appointed Instructor in Latin, afterwards receiving the Professorship. Misses Alice M. Van Ostrand and Mary R. McVay, both graduates of the Conservatory, were teachers in Music for the year 1892-3 and the following year. Mrs. Mary E. Minott served as Preceptress, and Matron of Dakin Hall, during the year 1892-3, being succeeded by Mrs. Annetta T. Stacy, who was Matron for two years.

In the year 1893-4, there were comparatively few Faculty changes. Professor Swain spent the year in graduate study in the University of Wisconsin, holding a fellowship in Economics in that institution. Mr. J. F. Hall had been appointed Professor of Rhetoric and English Literature, and was given a year's leave of absence for study. Elmer K. Eyerly, M. A., who had taught a number of years in Redfield College, was appointed Instructor in English and History, and at the close of the year was made Professor of Rhetoric and English Literature. During the next year, he was Acting Principal of the Academy, in the absence of Mr. Nash. Tracy H. Holmes, B. Ph., a graduate of Beloit College, was appointed Instructor in Chemistry and Biology — a position which he held for two years. Miss Mabel Riggs, a graduate of the Conservatory, was, for the year, a teacher in that department.

In the following year, also, there were but few changes. Mr. Nash and Miss Kingsbury were absent in Europe, the latter studying in the University of Paris until January, 1896. Rev. Corliss W. Lay, a graduate of Knox College, and of Chicago Theological Seminary, who had previously been engaged in missionary work in India, received an appointment as Secretary of the College in 1893, and this year was appointed Instructor in Biblical Literature and Elocution. Mr. Lay was destined to have a long and useful period of service with the College, holding the position of Secretary until the spring of 1906. During all those years, he rendered effective service, by his careful management of the

business affairs of the institution and his watchful oversight of buildings and grounds. Miss Elizabeth Learoyd served as Instructor in the Academy; and Mrs. Albert C. Stauffer became Instructor in Vocal Music in the Conservatory, holding the position for three years.

In the fall of 1892, there was founded in Charles Mix County an institution that has always been closely, although unofficially, connected with Yankton College. I refer to Ward Academy, which was named after Dr. Ward. Its founder was Rev. Lewis E. Camfield, who has continued to be the Principal and main supporter of the school. Its primary purpose was to give the opportunity to the young people of a new community to secure a good academic education, under religious influences; secondarily, it was to serve as a fitting school for the few who might feel impelled to seek a college education, the expectation being, as its name would suggest, that it would serve mainly as a feeder to Yankton. Nor has that expectation failed of realization; since the Freshman class of the College usually contains one or more graduates of the Academy, who, as a rule, reflect honor upon their school. The large measure of success and prosperity that has attended the Academy, is due chiefly to the self-sacrificing devotion and administrative ability of Mr. Camfield, who, from the first, has served also as pastor of the local church. For a considerable number of years, he has been a member of the Corporate Board, and of the Board of Trustees, of the College.

In October, 1892, an organization was started known as the Science and Art Association of Yankton College. Its membership was composed of members of the Faculty, of students of the two highest classes of the College, and of citizens of the town who might desire to join such a body. The primary object was to stimulate literary and scientific interest and research by the preparation of papers, to be read to the Association at its monthly meetings, and by the making of scientific collections. Copies of all papers read were to be deposited with the Secretary of the Association. The December (1892) issue of *The Student* reports papers upon the following subjects as having been already presented, or being in course of preparation: The American School at Athens; The Nebular Hypothesis; Reports upon the Recent Study of Mars; Theories Respecting Comets, Meteors and Meteorites; the Public Water Supply of Yankton; The Younger Pliny; Analysis of an English Masterpiece; Relation of Optics to Electrics; History of the South Dakota Movement for Statehood; Black Hills Geology, and others. The Association prolonged its existence through the following year, and then died a natural death.

At the opening of the year 1894, the Yankton College Christian Association, which had fostered and controlled the distinctively religious activities of the school from its very beginning, ceased to exist, its place being taken by the regular Young Men's and Young Women's Christian Associations. The hope that chiefly led to this step, namely: that the religious life of the students

might be quickened and broadened by the connection with the general organizations, has been abundantly realized, and the change has been fully justified by its results.

Upon the opening day of the college year 1894-5, the newly completed Ward Hall of Science was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies, the address being given by Father Nichols. The completion of this building added very materially to the equipment of the institution. A substantial brick and stone structure, built at a cost of \$35,000, exclusive of furnishing, it contains in the basement and on the first floor laboratories, recitation-rooms, and offices; on the second floor are additional recitation and society-rooms, and a commodious assembly-room, seated with opera chairs; while the third floor was, for a time, used by the departments of Music and of Art, but is now devoted exclusively to the use of the former. In the basement, moreover, is a room equipped with a full printing outfit, with which *The Student* is printed, and also a part of the general College printing. This work is done by students, a number of whom are thus enabled to gain a practical acquaintance with the printer's art.

In the fall of 1894, the institution experienced its first regular football season; and the December number of *The Student* contains some sage editorial reflections upon the mingled bane and blessing of that much discussed college sport.

The graduating class of 1895 is noteworthy for a number of reasons. In the first place, it was the largest

class up to that date, consisting of five young men and two young women. Another of its distinctions is the fact that it was the first class to wear the cap and gown. Again, it was the first to write theses in place of the traditional orations. The following is a list of the thesis subjects: Edith Marian Caton, Yankton, *The Physiological Relations of the Spring Phenogamous Plants in the Vicinity of Yankton*; Elias Fenn Lyman, Armour, *Conditions Favorable to the Production of Literature in South Dakota*; David J. Perrin, Armour, *Irrigation: South Dakota's Possibilities*; Arthur Bartley Rowell, Momence, Illinois, Sidney Lanier's "Science of English Verse;" Olive Saunders, Aten, Nebraska, *Economic Aspects of the Geology of South Dakota*; Frank Frederick Schaeffer, Yankton, *Schiller as a Reformer through his Poetry*; Albert Lord Wilcox, Yankton, *The Characters of Shakespeare's Othello*. On this Commencement occasion, the baccalaureate sermon was preached by Rev. Julian M. Sturtevant, D. D., of Aurora, Illinois; and the Commencement address was delivered by Rev. S. S. Matthews, of Chicago.

Toward the close of this college year, President Free tendered his resignation, to take effect September 1. After careful consideration, the Trustees decided to offer the presidency to Rev. Henry K. Warren, at that time President of Salt Lake College. President Warren accepted the position, entering upon its duties at the opening of the year 1895-6.

CHAPTER VII

THE ADMINISTRATION OF PRESIDENT WARREN: FIRST PERIOD (1895-1900)

The College had now been at work for thirteen years. At the beginning, there was not even one College building; the Faculty consisted of two persons; on the first day, five students were present; endowment, library, laboratories, equipment of every sort had existence only in the prophetic vision of one man. The new President assumed the leadership of an institution housed in four substantial, slightly structures, with a faculty of fourteen, with a total enrollment of two hundred and thirty-one students, with an endowment of about fifty thousand dollars, a library of about forty-six hundred volumes, and roomy laboratories, in the equipment of which at least a beginning had been made. Nevertheless, though such gratifying progress had been made, gloomy and trying days were still to be experienced; and it is due, above all else, to the tireless energy, the indomitable perseverance, and the marked ability to secure the interest of people able to give, exhibited by President Warren, that there was no disastrous halt in the development of the institution; that the superstructure reared upon the foundations laid so broadly and wisely by Dr. Ward has continued to rise aloft steadily and lastingly.

Henry Kimball Warren graduated from Olivet College in 1882, receiving from the same institution the degree of M. A. in 1885, and of LL.D. in 1902. For seven years after his graduation, he was engaged in public school work, as Principal and Superintendent. In 1889, he became President of Gates College, located at Neligh, Nebraska — a position which he held until 1894. During the year 1894-5, he was President of Salt Lake College, in Salt Lake City, resigning this position to accept the presidency of Yankton.

President Warren's administration will be divided, for convenience of treatment, into two periods, the first extending from the beginning of the college year 1895-6 to the end of the year 1899-1900; the second, from the year 1900-1 to the present time. Moreover, each period will be considered first in its more external, and then, in its more internal, aspects, as was done in the case of President Free's administration.

As ever, the financial problem continued to furnish a goodly supply of difficulties. Those were years of drought in Dakota; and many of the people who had given notes, in aid of the effort to meet the conditions of Dr. Pearsons' offer, found themselves reduced to the necessity of paying only a part, or none at all, of what they had pledged. Moreover, as has been intimated before, the current expenses were decidedly in excess of the income. Consequently, Mr. Gray, who continued to hold the position of General Treasurer, aided by Mrs. Ward, found it extremely difficult, indeed impossible, to secure the necessary means for meeting the

deficit, to say nothing of adding to the endowment. Yet one five thousand dollar gift was received the first year. In the following year, through Mr. Gray's influence, Mrs. Fiske, of Boston, who had so substantially manifested her interest in the institution before, consented to do still more, contributing fifteen thousand dollars to complete the endowment of the Greek chair; while her sister-in-law, Miss Elizabeth S. Fiske, gave twenty-five thousand dollars as an endowment for a chair in Science. These gifts were both subject to annuities during the life of the donors. Miss Fiske also gave one thousand dollars, afterwards increased to thirteen hundred dollars, for the equipment of the Biological Laboratory. This generous friend of the College died a few years ago; while Mrs. Fiske is still living at an advanced age.

Encouraging as were these forward steps, nevertheless, it was decided by the Trustees that it would be necessary that all members of the Faculty should contribute, for the coming year, one-sixth of the amount of their salaries, to help in meeting expenses. Conditions remained much the same during the next year, the chief item of encouragement being a gift of one thousand dollars from Dr. E. H. Williams, of Philadelphia.

During the year 1898-9, an amendment was made to the by-laws whereby it was provided that the maximum number of members of the Corporate Board should be sixty, instead of fifty; and that, instead of nine Trustees elected for one year, there should be twenty-one, seven being elected each year to serve three years.

In the same year, light broke in upon the gloom of the financial situation. For reasons that have been already indicated, another heavy debt was rapidly accumulated — so rapidly, in fact, that it now amounted to about \$25,000. Dr. Pearsons again came to the rescue, promising President Warren that he would give to the College the sum of \$30,000 for endowment, provided all debts should be paid by July 1, 1900. Furthermore, he imposed the condition that the current expenses of the institution should be reduced to \$10,000 a year — a step which necessitated a slight decrease in the number of teachers and a decided decrease in the size of salaries. However, the proposal was accepted; and the necessary reductions were made. Thus again, after a five-years breasting-spell, those who were interested in the College, directed all their energies toward meeting the conditions of this second generous offer of Dr. Pearsons.

During the summer, Dr. Pearsons proceeded to add a still more powerful stimulus to the efforts that were being made to secure his conditional offer, at one and the same time increasing the amount offered from \$30,000 to \$50,000 and shortening the time from July 1, 1900, to March 1, of the same year. At this time, the debt amounted to nearly \$26,000, while nearly \$4000 was needed in addition to provide for the deficit that would exist by March 1. Thus, the sum of about \$30,000 was to be raised in less than six months, if the splendid possibility was to be realized. Mr. Gray had already resigned his position as General Treasurer; and, accordingly, the heavy task of securing so large a

sum in so short a time fell to President Warren. So vigorously and skillfully did he conduct the campaign; so generously did students, alumni, and friends of the College, both in the East and in the West, respond, that the victory was won, and more than won, the generous sum of \$55,000 being added to the permanent resources, after every debt had been paid. This splendid outcome of the struggle was celebrated by the students with bonfires, the blowing of horns, class yells, and waving of colors. After the bonfires had subsided, a great crowd of citizens and students proceeded to Ward Hall, where speeches were made by Trustees, citizens, members of the Faculty, and students. President Warren's speech aroused great enthusiasm, especially among the students, by the declaration that the next object of attack would be not the payment of debts, but the building of a gymnasium. A resolution was passed by the Trustees that, thereafter, it should be the fixed policy of the institution to keep clear of debt; and that the utmost efforts should be put forth to close each year without a single dollar of indebtedness. It is pleasant to record that, up to the present time, that resolution has been strictly observed.

We turn now to the more internal interests and happenings of the first five years of President Warren's administration.

It is to be regretted that the same frequency of change in the personnel of the Faculty that had marked the past history of the institution, still continued — a state of affairs that is doubtless a common feature in the early

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period of the existence of small colleges. Nevertheless, a large measure of stability in the teaching force, resulting in continuity of methods, spirit, and ideals, is greatly to be desired. Professor Swain was granted a year's leave of absence for the purpose of further graduate study, and at the close of the year received the doctor's degree from the University of Wisconsin. Resigning his position in the College, he afterward accepted a professorship in the State Normal College of Montana, of which institution he is now the President. The work in Economics and History was taken by President Warren. George A. Clark, M. Ph., a graduate of Hillsdale College, who had taken graduate work at the University of Michigan, was elected Professor of Natural Sciences. Professor Clark has continued in the service of the College up to the present time, now holding the position of Professor of Chemistry and Physics. The other new teachers of this year were Miss Mary G. Kennedy, Instructor in Drawing and Painting, and Miss Alice L. Talcott, a graduate of the Conservatory, who was appointed Instructor in Piano. Miss Hattie Dibble occupied the position of Matron for the year.

In the following year, a vacancy occurred in the department of Latin, through the resignation of Professor Edith M. Hall, who gave up the position to become the wife of Rev. R. M. Coate. Her place was filled by the appointment, as Instructor in Latin, of Rev. Edwin B. Cushing, M.A., a graduate of Knox College, and of the Chicago Theological Seminary. Mr. Cushing remained with the College for a period of seven years,

receiving the Professorship of Latin at the end of his second year of service. Miss Jessie L. Clough succeeded Miss Kennedy as Instructor in Drawing and Painting; Miss Cora E. Westfall took the place of Miss Talcott as Instructor in Piano, and Miss Fannie L. Smith that of Miss Dibble as Matron.

In the succeeding year (1897-8), changes again occurred in the Departments of Music and Art. Miss M. Lou Ormsby succeeded Mrs. Stauffer as Instructor in Vocal Music; Mrs. Franklin L. Stead, who, as Miss Mabel Riggs, had some years before taught one year in the Conservatory, became Instructor in Piano in place of Miss Talcott; while Miss Ada D. Caldwell succeeded Miss Clough as Instructor in Drawing and Painting. Two new lines of work were added at the beginning of this year, namely: Elocution and Physical Training. Miss Rachel M. Axford became Instructor in Elocution, and Miss Nina B. Lamkin, Director of Physical Training for Young Women.

For the next year, the changes were confined to the Conservatory. The Director, Professor F. L. Stead, was granted a year's leave of absence, his place being temporarily filled by the new Instructor in Vocal Music, Miss Mannelta F. Marsh. Miss Talcott again returned, taking the position of Instructor in Piano and Harmony; while Miss Bertha L. Felber, also a graduate of the Conservatory, became Instructor in Piano, Pipe Organ, and Theory of Music.

In 1899-1900, Faculty changes were again numerous. Professor Wenzlaff, in the course of the year, resigned

the Professorship of German and Philosophy; Professor Eyerly, at the close of the preceding year, that of Rhetoric and English, and Professor Stead, the Directorship of the Conservatory and the Professorship of Music. The work in Philosophy was taken by Professor McMurtry; that in German, by Miss Ethel C. Washburn. Mrs. Marie Wenzlaff Lawton, a member of the class of 1891, was appointed Instructor in English Literature. Mr. Judson W. Mather was elected Professor of Music, and Director of the Conservatory, his wife, Mrs. Gertrude F. Mather, becoming Instructor in Violin. Work in Shorthand and Typewriting was provided, for the first time, this year, Mr. Richard F. Marwood becoming Instructor in those subjects. Another innovation introduced this year was a system whereby a student who displayed distinguished excellence in any one of a certain number of subjects, was appointed Assistant in that subject, rendering more or less aid to the teacher thereof. Accordingly, the following Assistants appear in the Faculty list for this year: Alice Anne Flanagan, in Latin; Reuben Harlan Osgood, in Science; Amelia Buell Curtis, in Mathematics.

With the opening of the year 1896-7, some important changes were made in the courses of study. To the old Classical and Scientific Courses, a new one, designated as the Philosophical Course, was added. In this course, prominence was to be given to modern languages and literatures, as in the Classical Course, it was given to the Classical languages and literatures, and in the Scientific Course, to the sciences. Hitherto, the courses

had been of the traditional type, according to which everything was prescribed and required. By the new scheme, a good beginning was made in the introduction of the elective system, which, by that time, had become an established feature of courses of study in the more progressive colleges and universities of the country. All the studies of the Freshman year were still required; but, beginning with the Sophomore year, a limited range of choice was made possible, increasing in extent with each of the remaining years. This step in advance, making it possible for the student to follow, in a measure, his special mental aptitudes and liking, and also his plans as to his future life-work, received a hearty and universal welcome from the students. A further improvement was the announcement of a carefully considered plan prescribing the methods by which graduates of the College might secure the Master's degree. According to this plan, a graduate might obtain his Master's degree by the successful completion either of a three-years course in a professional school or of a postgraduate course of study approved by the Faculty and equivalent to the work of one collegiate year, to be supplemented, in either case, by the preparation of a satisfactory thesis. A considerable number of the Alumni have availed themselves of the opportunity to get the higher degree, especially those who have taken professional courses.

The vastly increased part that Athletics had now come to play in American college life in general and in Yankton in particular, received recognition in the fact

that a lease for five years of sufficient land to form an excellent athletic park, located in close vicinity to the College, was generously given by two citizens of Yankton — Mr. Fred Schnauber and Hon. Bartlett Tripp. The State Intercollegiate Athletic Association, which was organized in 1888, existed for only three years. However, in the spring of 1894, the present Intercollegiate Association was formed. In the year 1896, the Intercollegiate Contests in both Oratory and Athletics were held in Yankton. Yankton's orator, William F. Ewert, was given second place; but afterwards, on the ground that the winner of first place had used unfair means in preparation, he was awarded the first place. In Athletics, also, Yankton secured first place, winning as many points as her two closest competitors together.

At that time, a new interest in the work of Foreign Missions manifested itself among the College Young Men's and Young Women's Christian Associations, through the formation of Volunteer Bands, composed of students who planned, if opportunity permitted, to devote themselves to that work. Such a band was organized at Yankton, with a membership of seven. As a result of the interest thus aroused and cherished, one graduate of the College — Miss Agnes Fenenga, of the class of 1901 — went as a missionary to Turkey. Moreover, delegates were sent by the Associations of the College to the international conventions of the Volunteer Movement, held at Toronto in 1902, and later at Nashville.

At Commencement of that year (1896), a new feature

was added, which has been maintained to the present time, namely: the Collation, an informal banquet participated in by the members of the Corporation and Trustees, the Faculty, the Alumni, the graduating classes and their friends, and whatever friends of the College wish to be present. After the simple repast is disposed of, according to custom a number of toasts, centering about the College and its various interests, are given.

The fact has already been mentioned that, at the opening of the year 1897-8, an important step in advance was taken, by the addition of Physical Training for young women, and the employment of a teacher of this subject. The credit for this forward movement is due to the Young Women's Christian Association. Their committee on Physical Training took hold of the project of securing means for engaging an instructor, and even became ambitious enough to plan for the building of a gymnasium for young women. Though this plan failed of realization, yet they accomplished much, both directly and indirectly, for the promotion of an interest in, and knowledge of, scientific Physical Training. By means of the gifts of Eastern friends, and the aid of the ladies of Yankton in carrying through entertainments, funds were secured for paying the expenses of the work; and it continued under the auspices of the Association for a number of years. Afterwards, the responsibility was assumed by the College.

That year is especially memorable in the history of the College, because of the outbreak of the Spanish

War, which involved the withdrawal of a number of students for the purpose of engaging in military service. To many, those days and weeks and months brought a new and vivid realization of the experiences through which the colleges of the country passed in the trying times of the Civil War; when their halls were nearly emptied of students by the stirring call to arms. In April, the South Dakota regiment of militia received orders to prepare for service in the field, the general impression being that they would be sent to Cuba. Their destination, however, finally proved to be the Philippines. Company C of the regiment was from Yankton; and its Captain was William S. Gray, a son of Rev. W. B. D. Gray and a member of the Senior class. By request of his class, he was granted his diploma at the Commencement that so soon followed. Sergeants Maurice L. Blatt and Frank B. Stevens were also students, as well as Corporal Thomas O'Gara and Privates Irving Melzner, Charles K. Prouty, and Homer W. Stevens. Other officers and privates of the company and also of other companies had been students in past years. Naturally, everybody connected with the College followed with keen interest the fortunes of the regiment. One member of it, who had been formerly a student of the Academy — Samuel E. Frazee — died in camp at San Francisco, on the outward journey. Charles K. Prouty also died, of typhoid fever, in the Philippines. These were the only deaths among those who had been connected with the College.

In June of that year, there appeared a modest little

volume, entitled "A Book of Dakota Rhymes," with the following dedication: "To our Alma Mater, Yankton College, this volume is affectionately dedicated." The editors were B. W. Burleigh and G. G. Wenzlaff, both members of the class of 1888, the second to graduate. The book contained a very creditable collection of short poems written by the editors and a considerable number of other persons, who were either at that time residents of South Dakota, or had been previously. Besides the editors, a number of other contributors had more or less close connection with the College. In later years, two new editions have appeared.

In the November issue of *The Student* is an editorial summing up the football results for the season. It displays a spirit of fairness and of opposition to professionalism that has been almost invariably characteristic of Yankton's attitude in Athletics. I quote a few sentences from it:

"The season of 1898 in this State has marked a great advance in football. Not only has there been a much better game played, but there have been more teams. As to the relative merits of the different teams, we are satisfied that Dakota University has the best team in the State. It is no more than fair to say that the Mitchell team outclasses the other teams in weight and also in knowledge of the game. The future of the game in this State is indeed promising. Each of the leading institutions has become enthusiastic over the sport; and we feel confident that henceforth the game will thrive. The next move must be to place football on a clean

amateur basis. We must free South Dakota Athletics from every taint of professionalism. We regret that many of the leading colleges do not seem to regard professionalism in the same light as does Yankton."

From the very beginning, the College has regularly observed the day called "The Day of Prayer for Colleges"—a custom which is common to a large number of colleges and universities throughout the country. On this day, the usual College exercises are omitted; and the fullest opportunity and encouragement are given to students to devote their undivided attention, for a day, to spiritual interests and possibilities. Some prominent clergyman, endowed with the power of interesting and helpfully influencing students, is usually invited to come and address the assembled school. The day was unusually impressive and helpful in the winter of 1899, because of the presence of Professor Graham Taylor, of the Chicago Theological Seminary, but far more widely known for his great work in connection with the Chicago social settlement known as "The Commons." A deep interest was aroused by Professor Taylor's pleas for the laying of a greater emphasis upon the social aspects of Christianity.

It was a notable day for the State, for Yankton, and the College, that witnessed the return from the far-off Philippines, after more than a year's absence, of the South Dakota regiment. The day was Saturday, September 14, 1899. President McKinley, accompanied by various members of his cabinet, was in the State to welcome the returning soldiers. Arriving at Yankton late

at night, he addressed a great crowd of people, who had patiently awaited his arrival. Company C, however, did not reach Yankton until 4:45, Sunday morning. Yet, many waited through the long hours of the night, until they came. A few of those who had been students in the College, previous to their departure for the Philippines, immediately resumed their studies.

In January, 1900, Mr. A. W. Westhorpe, a former student of the College, who was strongly interested in Numismatics, showed his continued interest in the institution, by the gift of a fine collection of one hundred coins, largely ancient. Mr. Westhorpe is still a resident of Yankton, and continues to manifest his old-time interest both in Numismatics and in the College by making fresh additions to the collection.

In March, of the same year, the State Convention of Young Men's Christian Associations was held at the College, with fifty-nine delegates present from the other colleges of the State — the largest attendance yet attained. The reports showed advancement in every line of work; and, at this convention, a step forward was taken by the choice of a State Secretary — Mr. C. C. Caldwell, of the State University.

Professor Mather, the new Director of the Conservatory, displayed characteristic energy by introducing a new element into the musical work and life of the institution, namely: the May Festival of Music, which has ever since continued to be one of the marked features of the closing weeks of the College year. The general plan that has been followed from the first, com-

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prises a series of musical entertainments, occupying the evenings and, to some extent, the afternoons of three days. These entertainments are, in part, furnished by outside artists; but the crowning event of the Festival has been the rendition by the local Choral Union, aided by soloists from outside, of some great work of musical art. In the first Festival, the work chosen was Gade's Crusaders. In the following year, Gounod's Redemption was given.

CHAPTER VIII

THE ADMINISTRATION OF PRESIDENT WARREN: SECOND PERIOD (1900—)

We have now arrived at the second period of President Warren's administration, extending from the opening of the college year 1900-1 to the present time. This period, also, will be treated from the double standpoint of the more external, and the more internal, happenings. We now direct our attention to the former.

It will be remembered that, as a result of Dr. Pearsons' conditional offer of fifty thousand dollars, and the strenuous and successful efforts of President Warren, backed by the generosity of friends of the institution, both East and West, the College entered upon this final period of the first quarter-century of its existence in a much more satisfactory financial condition, with the permanent endowment substantially increased, with freedom from debt, and a strong determination to continue steadfastly in that comfortable condition. The year 1900-1 was an auspicious commencement of the new policy. At the close of the year, Secretary Lay was able to report that the permanent resources had increased over \$5000. Over \$4000 had been contributed for current expenses; so that the year closed with entire freedom from debt.

The securing of additional funds for the construction

of a gymnasium made it possible to proceed to the realization of this much desired step in advance early in the following year. The corner-stone was laid on November 16, 1901, the exercises including an address on the Physical Side of Education by Mr. R. J. Wells, of Sioux Falls. The building is a brick-veneered structure, seventy-six by forty-six feet, consisting of a basement and main story. At the opening of the winter term, it was sufficiently near completion to enable it to be used for the work in Physical Training. Before the year closed, an unknown friend of the College presented the entire amount — nearly \$12,000 — required to pay for the construction and complete equipment of the building. By this generous gift, the amount already secured for construction was set free, to be used in other directions. Another gift of \$5000, doubtless from the same unknown source as the other, made it possible to purchase five acres of land, immediately adjoining the Gymnasium on the north, and to transform it into a splendid athletic park, surrounded by a strong wire fence, and furnished with a substantially built grandstand, with a seating capacity of five hundred. During this year, including these two gifts, and \$4500 in endowments, an addition of \$23,500 was made to the permanent resources.

During the year 1902-3, a Yankton enterprise was inaugurated, the success of which possessed a strong, even if indirect, interest for the College, namely: the erection of a new Congregational church building. From the first, there had, naturally, been a very close

bond of connection between the local Congregational church and the Congregational college of the State. Dr. Ward came to Yankton as the minister of this church, resigning its pastorate in order to accept the presidency of the College. Both at the beginning and throughout the later years, the people of the church had given generously for the support and development of the College. Always, the attitude of the institution had been positively, yet broadly, Christian, but absolutely unsectarian; and among its students were to be found attendants upon all the leading churches, including the Catholic. Nevertheless, it was inevitable that the majority of the students and teachers should be affiliated with the local church of the denomination under the auspices of which it was founded, and its work carried on, and to the churches of which it looked mainly for students. It was natural, then, that the effort entered upon in that year to add largely to the effectiveness and attractiveness of the work of the church, should enlist the warm interest and hearty co-operation of those directly connected with the College, whether as teachers or students. As is usually the case in connection with such movements, success was attained only through strenuous effort. Thanks, however, to the aggressive leadership of Rev. Bernard G. Mattson, the able and cultured pastor of the church at that time, a satisfactory outcome was finally secured. At a time when the effort seemed to be hanging in the balance, and threatening to collapse, the Trustees, urged on by President Warren, expressed their sense

of how deeply the College was concerned in the interests at stake, by voting that a pledge of \$1000 should be made by the institution, in addition to the numerous individual pledges that had been made by teachers and students.

Toward the close of this college year, it was arranged that the Ward residence should be resold to Mrs. Ward; and that a large brick house, located on Douglas Avenue, directly opposite the College, should be purchased and fitted up for use as the President's residence.

Again, for a third time, Dr. Pearsons manifested his interest in the College by making, through President Warren, another conditional offer of a \$50,000 gift. The condition imposed was that the same amount should be raised by the next Thanksgiving. Moreover, Dr. Pearsons was to be paid a two per cent annuity during the remainder of his life. Everyone realized that it would be a matter of extreme difficulty to make, for the third time, so large a demand upon the generosity of the friends of the institution. Nevertheless, it was felt that the utmost effort must be put forth to secure so substantial an addition to the permanent resources.

During the following college year (1903-4), President Warren was devoting all his energies to the effort to secure, within the State and in the East, the necessary amount. When it became evident that there was no hope of achieving success as early as Thanksgiving, Dr. Pearsons extended the time until the following

spring. Although this struggle was destined to be a long-continued and trying one, yet there was not a total lack of encouraging incidents during its continuance. Early in February, the cheering news came from President Warren that, with the aid of Lyman Abbott and Albert T. Shaw, editor of the Review of Reviews, he had succeeded in persuading Mr. Carnegie to donate \$15,000 for the construction of a library building. This amount Mr. Carnegie afterwards increased to \$17,000.

In March of that year, occurred the death of one of the most useful members of the Board of Trustees — Mr. Hugh S. Gamble. Mr. Gamble was one of that group of Yankton citizens, including Messrs. E. P. Wilcox, E. Miner, H. H. Smith, J. C. McVay, R. J. Gamble, Bartlett Tripp, C. H. Dillon, and others, who have expressed their appreciation of the worth of the College to the City and the State by giving largely of their means, their time, and their business and professional judgment, for the promotion of its interests. To them and to their associates, the institution owes a large debt of gratitude, which it can only repay by fidelity to the largest and most helpful ideals.

The year 1904-5 witnessed a continuation of the effort to secure Dr. Pearsons' gift by meeting the conditions. The time was finally extended to May 1, 1906. Although progress was being slowly made through President Warren's untiring efforts, yet, each year the gap between income and current expenses, which had to be filled by gifts in order to close the year without debt, constituted a very serious obstacle.

In May of this year, the meeting of the State Association of Congregational Churches was held in Yankton; and in connection therewith, the new church building, now completed at a cost of nearly \$30,000, was dedicated. The occasion was one of much interest to all connected with the church and College. Dr. D. F. Bradley and Dr. E. M. Williams, former pastors of the church, both of whom had taken a deep interest in the welfare of the College, were present and delivered addresses. Dr. Washington Gladden also gave an address. Another speaker, who was listened to with much interest, was Rev. George D. Wilder, a student of the College in early days, who had become a well-known missionary in China. Mr. Wilder completed his Sophomore year at Yankton, where his mother was Preceptress and Instructor in German; whereupon, he went to Oberlin and completed his course there, afterwards taking his theological course at Oberlin and Yale. He then received from the American Board an appointment as missionary in China, where he has done noteworthy service. Mr. Wilder is a cousin of Professor G. H. Durand, of the College, whose younger brother — Edward Dana Durand — was a brilliant student in the Preparatory Department during the year 1888-9, at the close of which he accompanied Mr. Wilder to Oberlin, where he graduated. Afterward, he secured the doctor's degree at Cornell University, and later was appointed to professorships at Stanford University and at Harvard. The latter position he resigned to accept an appointment with the Industrial Commission; and, at present, he is Deputy Commissioner of the Bureau

of Corporations, with which he has been connected since the time of its organization.

In the course of that spring, a number of improvements were carried out. Two slightly cottages were built for renting, on lots belonging to the College and adjoining the Campus. One of these cottages has been the home of Rev. E. W. Jenney, who has been engaged in evangelistic work among the Congregational churches of the State, and one of whose daughters is an Instructor in the College. Moreover, the dilapidated wooden sidewalks on the two streets approaching the College from the Town, and also those on the Campus were replaced by cement walks, adding much to the appearance of the College grounds.

When the time last set for meeting Dr. Pearsons' conditions — May 1, 1906 — approached, it was evident that the full amount required could not be secured. Accordingly, Dr. Pearsons consented to give \$30,000 in addition to an equal amount that had been raised. Although there was disappointment at the failure to add the full hundred thousand dollars to the endowment, yet it was realized that sixty thousand was a sum by no means to be despised. In truth, President Warren's invincible perseverance had been rewarded with larger returns than appeared on the surface. During the three-years campaign, a total of about \$120,000 was received, including the \$30,000 given by Dr. Pearsons. Of this amount, a little more than \$30,000 was used in meeting the shortages in current expenses incurred during the three years.

Mr. C. W. Lay, who had, for a period of thirteen years, discharged the duties of Secretary of the College with great efficiency, resigned the position on June 1, 1906. His large and pleasant residence, with its beautiful tree-shaded lawn, immediately adjoining the Campus on the east, was purchased by the College, to serve as an additional home for young women; inasmuch as Dakin Hall no longer furnished sufficient room to accommodate all. During the present year, accordingly, Lay Cottage, as it is designated, has been the pleasant home of a considerable number of young women and some of the lady teachers.

Early in April of this year, Governor Crawford, at the suggestion of President Warren, called a meeting at Yankton of representatives of the various educational, penal, reformatory, and charitable institutions of the State, to consider the interests of the criminal, defective, and dependent classes and to form a permanent organization for that purpose, if it should seem desirable. The Governor was present in person, as well as officials of the State institutions, and of similar institutions in adjoining states. Moreover, Mr. Alexander Johnson, of Indianapolis, the Secretary of the National Association of Charities and Correction, was present; and one of the most important results of the meeting was the organization of a State Association, in affiliation with the National organization. Dr. Warren was elected President of the body. Numerous well-attended and interesting sessions were held in the Congregational Church, and at the College, and the

State Hospital for the Insane. In every way, the meeting was a successful one, and is thought to mark an important step forward in the history of the State.

We now turn to the internal events of the years from 1900-1 onward.

In the first year of this period, Miss Kingsbury was again away on leave of absence, spending the time in study in France and Germany, with the special aim of fitting herself for the teaching of German in addition to French. On her return, she assumed the position of Professor of French and German, which she has held up to the present time. Miss Alice Flanagan, of the class of 1900, had the work in French until January 1, when it was taken by Miss Washburn, the Instructor in German. Mrs. Edith Hall Coate, who, before her marriage, had been Instructor and Professor of Latin, served as Preceptress in charge of Dakin Hall during the year. Miss Ruth L. Moody was Instructor in Drawing and Painting; Miss L. Olivia Everhard, Director of Physical Training, and Miss Cora A. Pollock, Instructor in Voice Culture and History of Music. Reuben Harlan Osgood was Student Assistant in Biology, and Carl Lyman Willis, in Latin.

In 1901-2, George Harrison Durand, M. A., a graduate of Oberlin and of Harvard, who, in the early days, was a student in the Preparatory Department, became Professor of English — a position which he still holds. Flora Bridges, M. A., a graduate of Oberlin, who had taken graduate work in the University of Zurich and of Chicago, was appointed Preceptress and Instructor

in English, later in Greek and English. Miss Anna B. Waterman was Instructor in Voice and History of Music; Miss Cora B. Gould, in Drawing and Painting; Mr. Mervin C. Sherwood, in Shorthand and Typewriting, and Miss Grace H. Belknap, in Kindergarten Music and Piano. The Student Assistants were Raymond Benedict McClenon, in Mathematics; Fritz Albert Brink, in Chemistry; Hugh Case Leibee, in Biology; Carolyn Mae Robison, in Latin. Mrs. Hattie Tanzy, who, as Miss Hattie Dibble, had before held the position, succeeded Miss Smith as Matron.

During the year 1902-3, Professor W. J. McMurtry was absent on leave because of ill health. At the close of the preceding year, Professor G. W. Nash had resigned his position as Principal of the Academy and Professor of Mathematics and Astronomy, in order to become a candidate for the office of State Superintendent of Public Instruction. He was successful in securing the office, and also filled it with great success, resigning to accept the presidency of one of the State Normal Schools, located at Aberdeen. His place as Professor of Mathematics and Astronomy was filled by the election of George Harvey Scott, M. A., a graduate of the University of Illinois and of Harvard, who is the present occupant of the position. An additional professorship was created by the division and enlargement of the work formerly assigned to the President. He now became Professor of Economics, Social Science, and Pedagogy; while the new chair of History and Political Science was filled by the election of Elmer Cummings

Griffith, M. A., Ph.D., a graduate of Beloit College and of the University of Chicago. Dr. Griffith was also appointed Principal of the Academy. Miss Carrie M. Lamb succeeded Miss Everhard as Director of Physical Training and Instructor in Physiology; while Miss Jennie W. Newman succeeded Miss Axford as Instructor in Elocution. A new addition to Faculty positions was that of Athletic Coach, which was filled by the appointment of John Lorenzo Griffith, B. A., a graduate of Beloit. Mr. Griffith also served as Instructor in the Academy. Still another position created this year was that of Librarian, to which Miss Helen E. Miner was appointed. The Student Assistants for this year were the following: Hugh Case Leabee, in Chemistry; Hazel Hope MacGregor, in Mathematics; Claude Albert Bennett, in Mathematics; Ray Wallis Ellis, in Biology. Rev. G. S. Pope was appointed Field Agent, his duties being the securing of financial support in the State and of new students.

For the year 1903-4, there were but few changes in the Faculty. Professor E. B. Cushing resigned the Professorship of Latin, and Henry Francis Smith, B. A., a graduate of Beloit and of Yale Divinity School, received the appointment of Instructor in Latin. Miss Newman was obliged to give up the work in Elocution at the close of the fall term, on account of her mother's death; and Miss Rachel M. Axford, who was the first teacher of the subject in the College, was secured to carry on the work for the remainder of the year. Miss Florence B. Jenney succeeded Miss Waterman as In-

structor in Voice and History of Music. Mr. Sherwood's place as Instructor in Stenography and Typewriting was taken by Mr. Lewis W. Martyn; that of Mrs. Tanzy as Matron, by Mrs. Lillian B. Harvey. The Student Assistants were Sara Alta Hughes, in English; Anna Emilia Bagstad, in German and English; Hazel Hope MacGregor, in Mathematics; Claude Albert Bennett, in Mathematics; Ray Wallis Ellis, in Biology, and Grace Marion Elliott, in Mathematics.

For 1904-5, the Faculty changes were the following: Professor J. W. Mather, at the close of the preceding year, resigned the Professorship of Music and the Directorship of the Conservatory, to take a similar position in Morningside College. Mr. Lee N. Dailey was appointed Director of the Conservatory, and a year later, Professor of Music. The new department of Biology and Geology was created; and Mr. LeRoy Harris Harvey, a graduate of the University of Maine, who had been Acting Professor of Biology in Morningside College the preceding year, was appointed Instructor, receiving the Professorship at the end of the year. Miss Bridges having resigned her position as Preceptress and Instructor in Greek and English, the vacancy was filled by the appointment of Miss Mabel E. Messner, a graduate of Northwestern University, as Dean of Women and Instructor in German. Miss Newman again returned to take the work in Elocution. Ellen H. Birdseye, M. A., a graduate of Oberlin, succeeded Miss Lamb as Physical Director of Young Women, also serving as Instructor in Greek and English. Miss

Gould was succeeded by Miss Daisy M. Haskell, as Instructor in Drawing and Painting. Mr. Ray W. Jordan became Instructor in Violin and Cornet; and Miss Gertrude E. Moses, Organist and Assistant in Piano. The Student Assistants for the year were Hazel Hope MacGregor, in Mathematics; Grace Marion Elliott, in English and Mathematics. Helen McCurdy Coman was teacher of Typewriting.

For the year 1905-6, George A. Clark, Professor of Chemistry and Physics, was given a year's leave of absence for study, which he spent in the Stanford University. Dr. Elmer C. Griffith having resigned his position as Principal of the Academy and Professor of History and Political Science, the duties of the Principalship were entrusted, for the year, to Professor George H. Scott, while Ulysses Simpson Parker, M. A., a graduate of the University of Nebraska and of Harvard, was appointed Acting Professor of History and Political Science. In the course of the year, however, Carl E. Wallace, M. A., a graduate of the University of Kansas, was appointed Principal of the Academy and Professor of History and Political Science, taking up the work at the beginning of the following year. Adeline M. Jenney, B. A., a graduate of the University of Wisconsin, became Instructor in English and Greek. Warren B. Hyney, B. A., a graduate of Albion College, succeeded Mr. John L. Griffith as Director of Physical Training for Young Men, serving also as Academy Instructor in History and Science. Miss Birdseye was succeeded as Director of Physical Training for Young

Women by Miss Ida B. Davis, who was also Academy Instructor in History and English. Miss Corinne Musgrove succeeded Miss Florence B. Jenney as Instructor in Voice and History of Music. Miss MacGregor continued to serve as Student Assistant in Mathematics, and Miss Elliott, in English. Miss Coman also continued as teacher of Typewriting.

For 1906-7, the following changes occurred: Professor Henry F. Smith resigned the Professorship of Latin, to accept a position in Colorado College; and the vacancy was filled by the appointment of Marvin V. Bennett, M. A., a graduate of Wofford College (S. C.), who had taken graduate work at Vanderbilt and Columbia Universities. Miss Newman was succeeded as Instructor in Elocution by Miss Davis, the latter being succeeded as Physical Director for Young Women by Miss Mary Coman. Mr. Hyney's place as Physical Director for Young Men was filled by the appointment of Louis U. Todd, B. A., a graduate of Oberlin. Miss Edna Hecker succeeded Mr. Jordan as Instructor in Violin, also serving as Assistant in Piano. Alta Blood, B. A., a graduate of Oberlin, became Academy Instructor in English and History; and Miss Hazel H. MacGregor, a member of the class of 1906, was appointed Instructor in Mathematics.

At the beginning of the year 1900-1, a new custom was introduced — that of "Opening Day." The thought was to make the commencement of the new college year more significant, by giving greater prominence to the chapel services of the first day. This end

is accomplished by having one or more addresses given by speakers from Yankton or the State; sometimes from outside the State. The custom has usually been observed during the intervening years. On the first occasion, addresses were given by Rev. T. J. Woodcock, pastor of the Congregational church of Elk Point and a member of the Board of Trustees; by Rev. H. W. Jamison, of the class of 1891, pastor of the Congregational church of Beresford and also a Trustee, and by Rev. R. H. Cantwell, pastor of the Baptist church at Dell Rapids. In subsequent years, addresses have been given by President George N. Ellis, of Tabor College, Hon. Bartlett Tripp, Senator R. J. Gamble, and others.

During this same year, the library was reclassified and catalogued according to the Dewey system. This work was carried through by Mrs. Julia Concannon. Subsequently, the increased importance attached to the library, in connection with the work of the College, was indicated by the appointment of Miss Helen E. Miner as Librarian.

Good progress was being made in the equipment of the scientific laboratories. That year, the work in Physics was made much more efficient by the expenditure of \$1000 for new apparatus. Already, Miss Fiske's generous gift of \$1300 had done much toward the equipment of the Biological Laboratory, the apparatus purchased therewith including twenty-one compound microscopes. Extensive and valuable cabinets of minerals and geological specimens had gradually been

accumulated, large additions being made to the scientific material through the presentation of a collection by Mr. H. W. White, of Yankton.

The catalogue of this year (1900-1) announces a new addition to the list of prizes, namely: the Drake Prizes — one of fifteen dollars, the other of ten dollars — offered annually by Mr. J. M'E. Drake, of the *Youth's Companion*, Boston, Massachusetts, to the two members of the Freshman class who secure the best record in the regular work of that class during the first semester. The first winners of these prizes were Mabelle Huntley, of Highmore, and Henry Tammen, of Yankton. This year, also, the Valentine Prizes, amounting to twenty-five dollars, were established by Dr. E. M. Valentine, of Yankton, to be given for excellence in Declamation, thus taking the place of the old Churchill Prizes. The "Alexandria" Prizes, amounting to twenty dollars, were given for the last time this year. For ten years they had been presented by Mr. I. J. Gray, formerly of Alexandria, to the two young women of the College and Academy who should write the best essays on assigned topics.

At the Christmas holidays, a very successful meeting of the State Teachers' Association was held at the College.

In the spring, a new departure was made in Athletics, by the employment of a coach, who was engaged exclusively for this work by the Athletic Association. Soon after, as has been already stated, this work became a part of the duties of an Academy Instructor — an

arrangement which has continued to the present time. Whether it was due to the new system, or to other reasons, the final score at the Intercollegiate Contest stood as follows: Brookings, 65; Yankton, $65\frac{1}{3}$; Mitchell, $51\frac{2}{3}$; Redfield, 8. In the Oratorical Contest, the outcome was not equally satisfactory; though Mr. E. D. Schoenberger, the Yankton orator, secured first place from all the judges in thought and composition. Miss Edith Noble, the Mitchell representative, did the same in delivery, and thereby secured first place, Mr. Schoenberger getting second. The record in Athletics was maintained in a dual meet with Morningside College early in June, Yankton securing seventy-six points; Morningside, twenty-eight.

The graduating class of this year enjoys the distinction of being the largest in the history of the institution, containing nine young men and two young women. The young men were the following: George Benson Ames, Raymond Bridgman, Eugene Forester Judson, Richard Frank Marwood, Francis Fordham Nash, Reuben Harlan Osgood, Emmanuel Deogratias Schoenberger, Ralph Waldo Thwing, and Claude Cornelius VanNuys. The young women were Daisy E. Eyerly and Agnes Fenenga.

In November, 1901, the State Convention of the Young Women's Christian Associations was held at the College, the occasion passing off very successfully, with the largest record of attendance up to that time.

In January, a course in Domestic Economy was introduced, with Mrs. Tanzy, the Matron, as Instructor.

However, the course was maintained for only two years.

Of the year 1902-3, one of the most notable events was the introduction of the Annual High School Contests in Declamation and Athletics, which have been a prominent feature of the latter part of the college year ever since. The initiation of the plan was due to Mr. J. L. Griffith, Physical Director for Young Men at that time, who had been familiar with a similar plan as a student at Beloit. Invitations were sent to the leading high schools of the State asking them to send their champions in Declamation and their athletes, for the purpose of utilizing the fine facilities available at Yankton, in the way of competitive contests in the two lines of activity. Representatives of six schools entered the Declamation Contest, namely: Centerville, Dell Rapids, Hurley, Milbank, Pierre, and Scotland. The result was that Robert P. Gleckler, of Pierre, won first place, and Frances Irene Shreve, of Dell Rapids, second place. Mr. Gleckler was presented with a gold medal, and Miss Shreve with a silver one. In the Athletic Contests, five schools took part, namely: Dell Rapids, Pierre, Tyndall, Vermillion, and Yankton. Tyndall won the greatest number of points. Gold and silver medals were presented to the athletic victors also; and a banner was given to the school winning first place in Declamation, and also to the one doing the same in Athletics. The occasion proved to be a great success, which has been repeated every year since. Other important high schools, including those of Aberdeen,

Huron, Mitchell, and Sioux Falls, have taken part in these contests in more recent years.

At the Intercollegiate Oratorical Contest of that year, Yankton won first place — an experience that had become a somewhat remote memory. For this pleasure she was indebted to Miss Anna E. Bagstad, of the class of 1905, whose oration had as its subject "Goethe." In Athletics, however, Yankton was out-classed by Brookings and Mitchell.

Toward the close of the year, the old Oratorical Association, which had been in charge of the local oratorical contest, the result of which decided who should be the representative of the College in the State Contest, was disbanded, and a new organization formed, to be known as the Students' League of Oratory and Debating. The name indicates what the functions of the organization were to be; it also marks the advent of a new and important line of student-activity. It was arranged that the Flanagan Prize Debate should be under the control of the League, and should serve as a preliminary contest for determining who should be intercollegiate contestants in Debate.

A new feature in the events of Commencement Week was added that year, namely: a contest in Extempore Speaking. Rev. Thomas L. Riggs, of Oahe, instituted the contest by offering a prize of ten dollars, which was divided between Mr. J. A. Fitch and Mr. J. W. F. Davies.

The Class Day exercises of that year were of unusual form and interest. They were held on the forenoon

of Commencement Day, the regular Commencement exercises being held in the evening, instead of in the forenoon, as usual. The Class Day ceremonies centered about the dedication of a substantial rock, with the year of the class cut into it, which reposes, as a lasting memorial of the class, in front of Ward Hall. Howard Guy McVay presided; Cornelius Robert Buller and Fred Albert Munneke delivered orations; Julia Dudley gave the class poem; Hugh Case Leibee, the class history; while James William Frederick Davies and Grace Esther Felber dedicated and christened the stone. The Commencement address was given by Rev. William Barton, D. D., of Oak Park, Illinois.

A new line of work was inaugurated in the summer of that year by the organization of a Summer School, which aimed to give teachers an opportunity to review branches already studied, or to take up new work, and, furthermore, to enable College and Academy students to make additional credits. As at first planned, the term was five weeks in length, recitations being held six days in the week. Afterwards, it was decided to lengthen the term to six weeks, with recitations five days in the week. For the future, the term will be eight weeks in length, enabling a student to secure a semester's credit for a double course, that is, one in which recitations are held twice a day. During the first two weeks of the Summer School, the sessions of the Yankton County Teachers' Institute are held in connection with it. The faculty is composed mainly of members

of the College Faculty; though a number of outsiders are added for pedagogical and other special work. The average attendance, thus far, has been a little above one hundred.

In the following year (1903-4), Debating was one of the chief interests. A series of contests was arranged with Huron College. The question selected for the first debate was "Resolved, that the Fifteenth Amendment of the Constitution of the United States has justified itself." The work was new, and experience was needed to show the best methods of preparation. The result of the preliminary contest, which, in accordance with the constitution of the Oratorical and Debating League, was the Flanagan Prize Debate, was that Howard H. Warren and Royal C. Frisbie were selected as Yankton's representatives; while Messrs. Dobson and Crossman were Huron's champions. Huron supported the affirmative, and gained the votes of two judges. The defeat caused Yankton to feel that more thorough and systematic preparation must be made for future contests.

This year also witnessed the birth of a new organization — the "Y Club"— composed of those young men who, as a token of their success in Athletics, had been decorated with gold Y's. The Club aims primarily to encourage an interest in Athletics; but it is also not unmindful of the social side of student-life. Its annual banquet is one of the prominent social events of the year.

Another new feature introduced this year was the

inauguration of the custom of observing "Founder's Day", in memory of Dr. Ward. It seemed to the Faculty eminently fitting that some means should be devised for keeping fresh in the memory of those connected with the College, whether as teachers or students, the vitally important part played by Dr. Ward in the establishment of the institution, and in the setting up of its ideals. Accordingly, it was decided that May 5 — Dr. Ward's birthday — should be designated in the College calendar as "Founder's Day;" and that annually, on that day, addresses should be made commemorative of his life and work. These exercises are usually held in connection with the regular chapel services.

On the first occasion, Hon. Bartlett Tripp, who had been intimately acquainted with Dr. Ward, told something of his memories and impressions of him — memories and impressions some of which long antedated the founding of the College. Professor McMurtry, also, whose connection with the College preceded by over two years the death of Dr. Ward, told somewhat of his memories and impressions regarding "the Founder" and the early history of the College. At the second celebration of the day, Mr. Ephraim Miner, who had been long and closely associated with Dr. Ward, in connection with the church and the College as well as in business relations, was one of the speakers; while Professor Durand spoke from the standpoint of one who had been a student during his presidency. For the following year, the speakers were Hon. L. B. French,

a prominent lawyer and long-time resident of Yankton, who had been well acquainted with Dr. Ward, and Mrs. Malcolm Walker, a Yankton lady who was closely connected with him by marriage, and had known him intimately from his boyhood. Mrs. Walker's address was one of great interest and charm, and was afterwards printed in pamphlet form. Inasmuch as the day came on Sunday in the present year, and since, furthermore, Dr. Ward was the founder of the Yankton church almost as truly as he was of the College, it seemed highly fitting that the observance of the occasion should take place in the Church. Accordingly, Rev. F. V. Stevens, the pastor, devoted his sermon to a strong and impressive discussion of the spirit and ideals manifested in Dr. Ward's life.

During the year 1904-5, the courses of study were remodeled, a number of important changes being introduced. The semester system was adopted in place of the former three-term division of the college year. The requirements for admission to the Freshman class were stated in a more satisfactory way. Instead of the old plan of three separate College courses, leading to three distinct degrees, one flexible scheme was adopted, permitting a wide range of variation, but in every case leading to the degree of B. A.

The possibilities of election were increased; but, at the same time, they were controlled by a carefully constructed outline, aiming to embody the best results hitherto attained in the evolution of college courses. In brief, the plan provides that the course of study

followed by each student taking a regular course should embrace three constituents, entitled "Required Courses," "Free Electives," and "Majors and Minors." The Required Courses, amounting to seven year-credits, include the courses which, in the judgment of the Faculty, it is well for every liberally educated person to pursue. The Free Electives, amounting to five year-credits, represent the student's unfettered liking and choice; while the Majors and Minors, equivalent to four year-credits, are composed of two lines of work, of which the Majors require three times as much work as the Minors. The three constituents accordingly, represent the judgment of the Faculty, the individual likings and aptitudes of the student, and, finally, a combination of the two; inasmuch as the student decides what his Major and Minor shall be, but the choice is made from a number of combinations proposed by the Faculty, and the time is prescribed, for which the subjects chosen shall be studied. The special object of the Majors and Minors is to provide that every student who completes a course, shall have the opportunity to learn what scholarly work really means, by prosecuting, for a considerable length of time, work in a comparatively limited field. In the Academy courses, no important changes were made, except the addition of another year of work, mainly of collegiate grade, to the Normal Course.

The Young Men's Christian Association had conducted a lecture course for a considerable number of years; but finding that the normal tendency was toward

a deficit as the outcome, they decided to cease making the attempt to carry on a course, for a time at least. At President Warren's suggestion, and with his co-operation, the following plan was devised for paying off the debt incurred by the Association in its efforts to maintain a lecture course. Some prominent lecturer would be asked to contribute a lecture, as an aid toward the end sought, for his expenses or other nominal sum. On December 1, Dr. Gunsaulus, the famous Chicago preacher and orator, gave a much-enjoyed lecture under such an arrangement. In the following year, Dr. Lyman B. Sperry, who, in former years, had delivered a series of lectures to the students, kindly consented to repeat the favor conferred by Dr. Gunsaulus; while early in the present year, Rev. Charles M. Sheldon consented to revisit his boyhood home on a similar errand. With such helpers, the debt was gradually lessened; and, at the same time, much of pleasure and inspiration came to the students in the course of the process.

The increased number of students in the College proper had caused the young men to feel that the one literary society that had hitherto sufficed for them — the Thegn — was inadequate to meet the need. Hence, from the membership of the Thegn and new students, two College young men's societies were formed at the beginning of the year 1905, one of which retained the old name; while the other designated itself as the Adelphian. The division introduced an element of friendly competition that has added somewhat to the interest taken in society activities — an element of

rivalry that has been utilized especially in connection with preparation for Intercollegiate Debates.

In the course of this same year (1904-5), a step forward, of minor importance, and yet of interest, was taken by the creation of an official seal. Dr. Ward had drawn a sketch embodying his ideas as to the proper design; but, unfortunately, this drawing had been lost. However, the recollections of those who had seen it — especially of Mrs. Ward — were utilized, and to some extent were embodied in the new device. Previous to the Commencement of 1904, four designs had been worked out, and submitted for suggestions to the Faculty, students, and other persons interested. At the Commencement Collation, a vote was taken to determine the first choice among the four designs. The one favored by the majority served as a model. About the outer margin runs the legend, "Yankton College — Founded 1881." Within a triple inner circle is a cross shedding light upon a book, beneath which is the College motto — "Christ for the World."

On March 22, the corner-stone of the new library building was laid, with simple, but appropriate, ceremonies, Hon. C. H. Dillon, of Yankton, Vice President of the Board of Trustees, speaking for that body, and Professor Durand for the Faculty. The construction proceeded with so little delay that the formal ceremonies celebrating the opening of the building were held on the evening of October 11. The main address was delivered by Rev. W. J. Turner, of Norfolk, Nebraska, in the Chapel; after which the large audience present

adjourned to the brilliantly lighted new structure, where briefer speeches were made by President Warren regarding the donor; by Mr. Harry Deiman, on the subject, "The Library from the Student's Standpoint"; by Professor McMurtry, on "The Library from the Faculty Standpoint"; by Senator R. J. Gamble, on "The Library as Viewed by the Citizens"; finally, by Secretary Lay, on "Cost, Construction, and Future Improvements of the Building." The structure — the fifth of the larger buildings upon the Campus — is of brick, fifty by sixty-nine feet in extent, containing two stories. On the lower floor are the office of the College Secretary, a recitation-room, a work-room for cataloguing, and the furnace-room. On the second floor, are the large and beautiful reading-room and the finely equipped stack-room. The complete plan provides for the ultimate addition of two wings, when need for them shall arise. The universal feeling was that the construction of this building marked a very important step forward.

On April 28, the second debate with Huron College occurred, the question being "Resolved, that the Immigration Laws of the United States should be made Uniform with respect to All Nationalities." Messrs. R. C. Frisbie and S. D. Thornton represented Yankton; while Huron was represented by Messrs. Starring and Appel. The decision of the judges was unanimously in favor of Yankton, the defeat of the previous year being thus more than atoned for.

On April 10, for the first time in the history of the

College, occurred the presentation of a Classical play. The "Phormio" of Terence, one of the Latin comedies, had been carefully translated by advanced students in Latin; and, on the evening of the above-mentioned day, it was very successfully and pleasingly put upon the stage under the direction of Professor Smith.

This year, for the first time since 1897, the Intercollegiate Contests in Oratory and Athletics were held at Yankton. In the former, Mr. Clarence L. Holmes represented Yankton, receiving fourth place, Mr. Tanner, of Mitchell, ranking first. In the latter, the Agricultural College secured the greatest number of points, Yankton coming next. Because of the small attendance, both local and from other institutions, it seemed advisable to hold the contests nearer the center of the State. Hence, in the succeeding years, they have been held at Huron or Mitchell.

The May Musical Festival was held this year under the direction of the new head of the Conservatory — Professor Dailey. Three evenings were occupied by the various entertainments. On the first evening, a concert was given by the College Orchestra, which included sixteen persons, playing eight different instruments. On the second evening, a vocal program was rendered by Mr. Gustav Holmquist, of Chicago; while, on the last evening, Gounod's *Redemption* was given very successfully by the Choral Union, with Misses Jenney and Messner and Mr. Holmquist as soloists.

During the summer vacation of this year (1904-5),

the first session was held at the College of a Summer Theological Institute — a revival by President Warren of a plan inaugurated by President Ward, shortly before his death. The object was, primarily, to give clergymen, whether Congregational or of other denominations, the opportunity to spend two weeks in coming into touch with the freshest, most inspiring, views of theological, particularly biblical, subjects, as presented by eminent scholars and specialists. Anybody, however, who was sufficiently interested in such matters to give the requisite time, and to pay the modest fees for tuition and board and lodging, if needed, was heartily welcomed. For the first session, the lecturers were Dr. Bewer, Professor of Hebrew in Union Theological Seminary in New York City; Dr. E. I. Bosworth, Dean of the Oberlin Theological Seminary; Dr. Henry C. King, President of Oberlin College, and Professor G. H. Durand, of Yankton. The following summer, Dr. W. G. Ballantine, formerly Professor of Hebrew, and later President, of Oberlin, and Dr. Frank K. Sanders, formerly Dean of the Yale Divinity School, were the instructors. The attendance was not as large as was desirable; but all who attended, were heartily agreed that they had derived much of help and inspiration from the Institute.

In the college year 1905-6, an important step forward was taken by adding one year to the Academy courses of study, the regular College Preparatory Courses becoming four years in length; the Normal Course, five years. In the case of the former, the change was

made in order to give a more thorough preparation for college work, and also in recognition of the development taking place in the courses of the public high schools. The increased amount of work provided in the Normal Course was called for by the law prescribing the requirements to be met by those who should be able to secure five-year teachers' certificates.

It has been stated that, in the year 1902-3, the local Oratorical Association was reorganized. The new organization, however, proved to be a short-lived one, mainly owing to the fact that, as in the past, but few students took any active interest in its affairs. A new plan was now proposed, aiming to introduce a more satisfactory condition by making the home Oratorical Contest an inter-society affair, the contestants representing the three College literary societies, and all arrangements being placed in the hands of a committee composed of a representative from each Society and a member of the Faculty. A similar arrangement had been adopted in matters pertaining to Intercollegiate Debating. It was decided that the representatives of the College in Intercollegiate Debates should be selected by a lengthy series of society and inter-society debates, on the same question as was to serve in the approaching Intercollegiate Debate, thus ensuring the choice of the most effective debaters on the question, and also their thorough preparation.

A reorganization was effected, this year, in the athletic organizations also. It was decided that, instead of having separate Associations for the young men and

the young women, the two should be combined into one general Association, embracing the entire student-body and the Faculty, which should have a general control over all athletic interests. The immediate executive control, however, was put under the charge of a Board of Control, including three members of the Faculty, one citizen of the Town, one alumnus, one representative of each class in the College and the Academy, one of the Conservatory, one of the Y Club, and the managers and captains of the various athletic teams. This Board was to elect its own officers, who were to serve also as the officers of the Association. This scheme has worked very successfully thus far, both from a financial standpoint and also by securing a more widely diffused interest in athletic matters.

Frequently, in the course of this narrative, has the closeness of the bond uniting the College with the Congregational church of Yankton become apparent. It was, accordingly, a matter of much interest and regret to those connected with the College, when, on March 8, Rev. B. G. Mattson, after holding the pastorate for seven years, resigned to accept a call to Mansfield, Ohio. Mr. Mattson's ability as a preacher made it seem a matter of difficulty to discover a suitable, and at the same time attainable, successor. However, in securing Rev. F. V. Stevens, of Whitewater, Wisconsin, both church and College feel that the pulpit continues to be filled by a strong and clear-headed leader and helper in the spiritual life.

The third and final debate with Huron College occurred on the evening of April 20, at Yankton. As has

already been mentioned, in the two former debates each college had been victorious once. Consequently, the approach of the third was viewed with much interest. The question selected was that of the desirability of the general use of the plan of the Primary Election, Yankton supporting the affirmative. The system of repeated society and inter-society debates on the question had resulted in the choice of a strong and well-trained team, consisting of Messrs. Deiman, Amundsen, and Roberts; while Huron was represented by Messrs. Appel, Weir, and Starring. They, too, were excellently prepared for the hand-to-hand struggle. Both sides had carried on an extensive correspondence with prominent public men and authorities on the question. After an exciting and strongly contested debate, the judges, by a two-to-one verdict, awarded first place to Yankton, thus giving the victory in the series as a whole to the same institution.

At the beginning of the present year (1906-7), an arrangement was made with the State Agricultural College, at Brookings, to hold a series of debates. The first of these, occurring early in the spring, was upon the question of Compulsory Arbitration in Labor Disputes, Yankton again maintaining the affirmative. Her representatives again included Messrs. Deiman and Amundsen and also Mr. Howard H. Warren, a participant in the first debate with Huron. Brookings sent Messrs. Dillman, Sperb, and Salmon, as her representatives, and worthily did they play their part. Nevertheless, the decision of the judges was in favor of Yankton by two to one.

CHAPTER IX

THE PRESENT AND FUTURE

We have now followed the history of the College from its founding down to the present time — a period including the first twenty-five years of its work. It has been a record of strenuous effort in the face of lack of resources and almost insurmountable difficulties; a record of steadfast endurance, unfaltering courage, and arduous endeavor in the midst of discouragement and threatening disaster; finally, a record of fidelity to unselfish aims and high and worthy ideals. It is this record and its intangible, but enduring and potent, impress upon the minds and hearts and lives of a multitude of young men and women, that constitute the institution's chief title to honor. These young men and women — the graduates and students for a longer or shorter period, in the past years — have, we doubt not, been living more intelligently, more largely, more unselfishly and usefully, because of their connection with Yankton College. An institution that attains, in any considerable degree, such results, has justified its right to existence. While, then, with greatest pride, would the College point to the lives of her sons and daughters as the most satisfactory outcome of her work, yet it may be well, in concluding this outline of the events in

her brief life, to summarize the more important facts that are the outward embodiment of her inner life and spirit.

The resources of the institution, including Campus, buildings, endowment, and all other items, have a total value of about \$360,000.00. About one-half of this amount consists of the endowment funds. The Campus contains about twenty-five acres, including the Athletic Park. It is finely situated on a hill, known as College Hill, immediately adjoining the main portion of the City on the north. Covered with an abundant growth of thrifty trees, and furnished with gracefully curving cement walks, it is justly considered one of the most beautiful scenes in the entire State. In the central portion of the Campus are located the five main buildings, namely: Ward Hall of Science, Middle Hall, Dakin Hall, the Library, and the Gymnasium. On the west is the residence of the President; on the east, the white walls of Lay Cottage peer through the trees; on the south, crowning Observatory Hill, is the Observatory; while on the north, in the Athletic Park, is the substantially constructed grandstand.

The Corporate Board, in which is vested the corporate existence of the institution, at present contains fifty-four members, namely: Pres. G. W. Nash, Aberdeen; Rev. L. E. Camfield, Academy; A. S. Disbrow, Alcester; Rev. D. J. Perrin, Belle Fourche; Rev. H. W. Jamison and Hon. J. E. Sinclair, Beresford; Hon. C. H. Cassill and Rev. G. S. Evans, Canton; Rev. J. W. Todd, Centerville; Rev. D. M. Brown, Cham-

berlain; Rev. E. M. Williams, D. D., Chicago, Illinois; Rev. T. J. Woodcock, Elk Point; E. M. Lyman, Gettysburg; G. W. Fitch, Hurley; Rev. C. M. Daley and Rev. W. H. Thrall, D. D., Huron; Hon. W. H. H. Beadle, Madison; G. A. Wood, Milbank; Fred Greene, Miller; Rev. A. C. Bowdish, A. E. Hitchcock, and D. B. Miller, Mitchell; Rev. G. S. Pope, Oacoma; Rev. T. L. Riggs, Oahe; C. L. Hyde, Pierre; H. W. Somers, Rapid City; Charles Shade, Rock Rapids, Iowa; Rev. A. L. Riggs, D. D., and F. B. Riggs, Santee, Nebraska; F. A. McCornack, Sioux City, Iowa; Rev. Frank Fox, D. D., Sioux Falls; Dr. J. O. Duguid, Springfield; Rev. T. J. Brown, Vermillion; Hon. M. J. Chaney, Wakonda; A. J. Abbott, Rev. J. F. Cross, Hon. C. H. Dillon, E. C. Dudley, Hon. L. B. French, Hon. R. J. Gamble, G. L. Gilman, Dr. C. C. Gross, Alice R. Kingsbury, Hon. E. Miner, W. H. McVay, H. H. Smith, Hon. Bartlett Tripp, L. L. Tyler, Dr. E. M. Valentine, Mrs. Sarah F. Ward, Rev. H. K. Warren, LL.D., G. G. Wenzlaff, E. P. Wilcox, and George Wilson, Yankton. Hon. Bartlett Tripp is Chairman of the Board, and Hon. E. Miner, Secretary.

The Board of Trustees, elected from, and by, the Corporate Board, has immediate charge of the general administration of the affairs of the institution. It consists of twenty-one members, each elected for three years. The Board is at present constituted as follows: L. E. Camfield, C. M. Daley, G. S. Evans, F. A. McCornack, D. J. Perrin, Bartlett Tripp, and L. L. Tyler, with term expiring in June, 1907; A. J. Abbott, C. H. Dil-

lon, A. L. Riggs, J. E. Sinclair, W. H. Thrall, H. K. Warren, and E. P. Wilcox, with term expiring in June, 1908; A. C. Bowdish, A. S. Disbrow, Frank Fox, H. W. Jamison, H. H. Smith, George Wilson, and T. J. Woodcock, with term expiring in June, 1909. The officers of the Board are the following: Rev. H. K. Warren, President; Hon. C. H. Dillon, Vice President; Prof. G. A. Clark, Secretary; W. H. Edmunds, Treasurer.

The Faculty includes twenty-two persons — ten men and twelve women — whose names and positions are as follows:

Rev. Henry Kimball Warren, M. A., LL.D. (Olivet College), President; Professor of Economics, Social Science, and Pedagogy.

William John McMurtry, B. A. (Olivet College), M. A. (University of Michigan), Dean of the Faculty; Charlotte M. Fiske Professor of Greek and Philosophy.

George Albert Clark, M. Ph. (Hillsdale College), Elizabeth S. Fiske Professor of Chemistry and Physics.

Alice Reynolds Kingsbury, M. A. (Yankton College), Professor of French and German.

George Harrison Durand, B. Ph. (Oberlin College), B. A. (Harvard), M. A. (Harvard), Professor of English.

George Harvey Scott, B. A. (University of Illinois), M. A. (Harvard), Professor of Mathematics and Astronomy.

Lee Nimrod Dailey, Professor of Music and Director of the Conservatory.

LeRoy Harris Harvey, M. S. (University of Maine), Professor of Biology and Geology.

Carl E. Wallace, M. A. (University of Kansas), Principal of the Academy; Professor of History and Political Science.

Marvin Valette Bennett, M. A. (Wofford College), Professor of Latin.

Mabel Estelle Messner, B. Ph. (Northwestern University), Dean of Women, Instructor in German.

Gertrude Elizabeth Moses, Organist and Assistant in Piano.

Adeline Miriam Jenney, B. A. (University of Wisconsin), Instructor in English and Greek.

Corinne Musgrove, Instructor in Voice and History of Music.

Ida Belle Davis, Instructor in Elocution.

Louis Uwercks Todd, B. A. (Oberlin College), Director of Physical Training for Young Men, Instructor in History.

Caroline Mary Coman, Director of Physical Training for Young Women.

Hazel Hope MacGregor, B. S. (Yankton College), Instructor in Mathematics.

Alta Blood, B. A. (Oberlin College), Instructor in English and History.

Anna Iverson, Instructor in Art.

Edna Hecker, Instructor in Violin and Assistant in Piano.

Helen Elizabeth Miner, Librarian.

Twenty classes have been graduated from the full

College courses, including a total of ninety-nine persons, of whom sixty-six are men, and thirty-three are women. The class about to graduate at the approaching Commencement will add nine to the number of Alumni, carrying it well over into the second hundred. Of the ninety-nine, two have died. The remainder are engaged, so far as is known, in the following occupations: three are physicians; six are lawyers; thirteen, clergymen; four, missionaries; six, business men; two, stenographers; three, bookkeepers; one is an editor; eight are farmers or ranchmen; fourteen, home-keepers; one is a college president; two are college professors; three, instructors in universities or colleges; one is Principal of a state normal school; one, County Superintendent of Schools; six are Principals of schools; nine are teachers in high schools or academies; three are grade-teachers; seven are graduate students in various universities and professional schools.

The total attendance for the college year 1905-6, in all departments, including the Summer School, was 358.

Needy students of high character and good scholarship receive aid from a considerable number of scholarships.

The following endowed scholarships are available:

The John and Lydia Hawes Wood Scholarship of one thousand dollars, given by Rev. John Wood and wife of Fitchburg, Massachusetts, to the Congregational Education Society, in trust for Yankton College, to assist evangelical students in the College courses studying for the ministry.

Six hundred dollars of the Tabernacle Church Scholarship, given by the Tabernacle Church, of Salem, Massachusetts.

The John R. Warriner Memorial Scholarship of five hundred dollars, given by Miss Maria R. Warriner, of Pittsfield, Massachusetts, in memory of her father.

The James H. Kyle Scholarship, of five hundred dollars, given by the late Rev. James H. Kyle, of Aberdeen, South Dakota.

The Albert Shurtleff Endowment Fund of five hundred dollars, given by Albert Shurtleff, of Richland, South Dakota.

The Armour Church Scholarship of two hundred and fifty dollars, given by citizens of Armour, South Dakota.

The Mary A. Livermore Vocal Musical Scholarship of four hundred dollars, given by Rev. D. P. Livermore, of Boston, Massachusetts.

The Disbrow Scholarship of five hundred dollars, given by A. S. Disbrow, of Alcester, South Dakota.

The Hoard Scholarship of five hundred dollars, given by J. G. Hoard, of Alcester, South Dakota.

The Lucinda Smith Scholarship of one thousand dollars, given by Lucinda Smith, of South Boston, Massachusetts.

Interest is available on the following scholarship:

A scholarship of three hundred dollars, given by Rev. C. M. Daley, of Huron, South Dakota.

The following endowed scholarships are not available:

The Julia A. W. Ford Memorial Scholarship of two thousand dollars, from the estate of Mrs. Julia A. W. Ford, of Lynn, Massachusetts.

The Edward Taylor Scholarship of one thousand dollars, given by Edward Taylor, of Andover, Massachusetts, to assist young men studying for the ministry.

The Mrs. Lucy W. Swan Memorial Scholarship of one thousand dollars, given by C. L. Swan, of Clinton, Massachusetts.

The Edmund Kimball Scholarship of one thousand dollars, in memory of Captain Edmund Kimball, of Wenham, Massachusetts, "a noble Christian sea-captain."

A scholarship of one thousand dollars, given by Miss Elizabeth S. Fiske, of Boston, Massachusetts.

The Edmund Tuttle Memorial Scholarship of five hundred dollars, given by Mrs. W. B. Hubbard, of Sherburne, Minnesota, in memory of her father.

A scholarship of five hundred dollars, given by the Union Congregational Church, of Boston, Massachusetts.

Four hundred dollars of the Tabernacle Church Scholarship, given by the Tabernacle Church, of Salem, Massachusetts.

The immediately preceding pages have aimed to give a brief outline of the more tangible facts that may convey some idea of the results that have been attained in the upbuilding of the institution, in the first quarter-century of its existence. It seemed fitting to the Trustees and Faculty that the completion of this period should

receive special recognition. It appeared to them that the occasion should be regarded as one of not merely local or denominational significance; inasmuch as this college was the first institution of higher learning to begin work in the Dakotas. Accordingly, throughout the year, preparations have been going on to celebrate the quarter-centennial in a large and worthy way. These commemorative exercises will take place during Commencement week. The Commencement address will be given by Dr. Graham Taylor, of Chicago. The special features of the week will consist of brief addresses, relating to the past history of the College, by present and former members of the Faculty and representatives of the Alumni; addresses by some of the most prominent Congregationalists of the country; an address of welcome by the President of the College, to which responses will be given by representatives of the Nation, State, and City, of colleges and universities within and without the State, and of the Alumni; musical and other entertainments; all to conclude with a "Town and College" Banquet, to be given by the Trustees, Faculty, Alumni, and the Commercial Association of Yankton. It is expected that a large number of the Alumni, former students, and friends of the College will be present; and that the whole occasion will be one of unique significance in the history of the institution. It is earnestly hoped, also, that there may spring from it a renewed interest in, and enthusiasm for, the College, on the part of all its friends and supporters — an interest and enthusiasm that shall result

in a strong and lasting impetus to future growth and development.

To emphasize still further the importance of the Anniversary Celebration, a number of special publications are being prepared, including a beautiful and artistic book of views of the College and of the Town; a special illustrated Anniversary number of *The Student* that shall constitute a record worthy of the occasion, and, finally, this historical sketch of the first twenty-five years in the life of the institution.

So much for the past and present. What of the future? What record of inspiring successes, or of disheartening failures will the coming quarter-century unfold? That a large measure of success has already been attained, and that, too, in the face of great difficulties, no one can deny; and it would seem that the substantial achievements of the past furnish a strong pledge of continued progress in the future. Nevertheless, the difficulties are far from having taken a final departure. Doubtless, it is largely true that the more a college gets, the more it needs; and the day is far remote when Yankton College will cease to be, in part, dependent upon the generous gifts of those who appreciate the service rendered by such institutions. More and more, however, must such gifts come from home friends, rather than from generous Eastern givers. Our State is rapidly developing in wealth; and, naturally, it is felt by those in the East who have the ability and the willingness to give, that their benefactions should be turned in directions where greater

need exists. Yet, money is not the only requisite for the building up of a strong and influential college. Students, also, must be attracted and held. With the development, however, of the public high schools, which has already begun in the State, and which will proceed with greater rapidity in the future, less and less may our Academy be looked to for supplying College students; and more and more must the College manifest an ability to draw to itself a due proportion of the graduates of high schools, to the end that it may lead them on into larger, richer, more fruitful lives. Only so can the institution carry out the high purposes for which it was established; for which Dr. Ward pleaded so eloquently in his inaugural address. Nevertheless, here, at the point of highest duty and privilege, is located also Yankton's special difficulty. For a number of reasons, chief among which are, perhaps, proximity to the State University; location on the very border of the State; the existence of a second Congregational college in the State; a certain lack of denominational loyalty more characteristic of Congregationalists than of denominations under the control of strong ecclesiastical organizations; finally, the fidelity with which Yankton has, on the whole, adhered to the college ideal, to the neglect of appeals to the so-called practical interests of possible students — for all these reasons and, possibly, others, the increase in attendance, especially in the regular collegiate classes, is not fully commensurate with the fine record which the institution has made, nor with its equipment, which, for regular col-

lege work, is probably unequaled elsewhere in the State, nor with the ability and training of its Faculty.

The question arises, then, as to the method by which the College may realize the surely not unworthy ambition of utilizing, for the good of the Commonwealth as well as its own continued development and increase in influence and helpfulness, all the resources and capacities for the enlargement and enrichment of young lives that it possesses. Shall this high end be sought by a lowering of ideals; by, at least, ceasing to make the development of a college, in the best and truest sense of the word, the one dominant purpose, to which everything that is opposed must give way? To this question, I would reply that such a solution of our problem would be a mistaken solution; that it would involve an abandonment of the basis upon which the institution was founded; that it would mean the renouncement of that which has been the most worthy element in the past success of the institution, namely: its fidelity to the college idea and ideals — to those conceptions of the meaning and function of the college as an institution that were so admirably expressed by Dr. Ward at the beginning. In his inaugural address, he gives utterance to the most frank and unsparing criticism of certain tendencies that were manifesting themselves in the life of that period, and with special rankness of growth in Western communities — the mad rush for wealth and power, the impatience to realize speedy and tangible results, the inability to appreciate the importance of a quiet, patient, long-

continued effort to reap the fruits of the spirit, as constituting the only satisfying and lasting outcome of human life. Speaking approvingly of Matthew Arnold's criticism of American life as lacking in sanity and poise, he raises the following question in substance: If the English critic, as the result of his observation of American life as manifested in the East, with its stores of inherited culture and refinement, felt impelled to give expression to his sense of serious defects, what would he have said, had he come into contact with Western life? In like manner, we may say: If Dr. Ward thus judged of American and Western life nearly a quarter of a century ago, what words could he find suitable for expressing what he would now feel, had he the opportunity of observing how, during that time, the tendencies toward practical materialism and atheism as manifested in a mad struggle for wealth, for power, for social position and display, even at the sacrifice of peace and happiness and honor, have become still stronger, still more widely prevalent?

Pleasant it is to admit that recent years have witnessed a formidable revolt against this triumph of materialistic principles and practices, especially in defense of the great ideal of Social Righteousness. Yet, who can deny that, for many a year to come, there will be need that all the forces and institutions pledged to the upholding of an idealistic, a truly Christian, interpretation of life, should unceasingly offer the most strenuous opposition to the smug Philistinism involved in the unquestioning belief that outward success — the

attainment of a respectable position and social recognition — is the one sole, all-inclusive end of life, by which the worth of everything else must be measured? In truth, the wide-spread prevalence of this totally inadequate, this fundamentally unchristian conception of the meaning and end of life, opposed as it is to Christ's doctrine of seeking first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, in the peaceful confidence that the other things, so far as they are needed, will be added, is the main source of the chief evils — the vulgar, sordid ambitions, the restless strivings, the inability to enjoy the simple pleasures of life, the lack of reverence for what is high and noble, the betrayal of private and public trusts — which infest American life to-day, and cause the world to wonder whether its boasted democracy is not a hollow pretense and mockery; for, surely, it is the fundamental principle of democracy that in the human personality itself, rather than in the outward and artificial trappings whether of hereditary rank or of material wealth, lies the true seat and measure of worth and dignity.

Is it not just this point of weakness, of peril to the lasting success of democratic principles and ideals, that the American college is called upon to strengthen and defend — called upon by past traditions and ideals; by the deepest needs, the most threatening dangers of the present; finally, by the most momentous issues of the future? Certainly, no more fitting, no more important task can the college as an institution find than to lead the minds and hearts of young men and women

of exceptional endowments and ambitions into a large and true view of what life really means, or may mean; of what is the best use to which their endowments can be put; of what are the highest and noblest ends to which their ambitions can be directed. These supremely important lessons can be conveyed only by the adequate teaching of the best in the realms of thought, of feeling, and of action, yet attained by the race, in an atmosphere pervaded by the spirit of these supreme results of human endeavor, with the aid of such student-organizations and activities as shall give opportunity for the practical application of the lessons of idealism, and for the development of the spirit of fellowship and of social service and unselfish leadership. An institution pursuing such aims, with such a spirit animating its teachers and students, has a rightful claim to the honorable designation of American College. The graduates of such an institution will go forth with a clear insight into the defects of popular standards and ideals — an insight that will lead them to assume an attitude, not of critical Pharisaism, but of earnest desire to contribute what in them lies of help and guidance; assuredly, they will *not* go forth with the attainment of outward personal success as their chief aim in life — an aim that would make it easy and natural for them to adopt the tricks of trade, the politician's wiles, the sacrifice of principle to cheap popularity.

In a new, and, as yet, largely undeveloped commonwealth, from necessity much engrossed with material interests, the development of such an institution will,

necessarily, be slow. Fine, highly organized fruit must not be expected to equal the pumpkin in rapidity of growth. Unavoidably, such an institution must be itself one of the main agencies in begetting in the public mind a perception and appreciation of the need and worth of it. But if an institution remains true to such a high and truly democratic conception of its mission, that perception and appreciation are sure to come. It will be clearly seen that no institution, of whatever sort, deserves more highly of the State, than one which instills into the minds and hearts of young men and women such a spirit of loyal, unselfish devotion to the highest and best interests of the Commonwealth. Certainly, an indispensable condition of the development of such a spirit of appreciation in the minds of the people of the State is an attitude of manifest loyalty to all the interests and institutions of the State, on the part of everyone connected with the College. An admirable illustration of the right attitude is furnished by the part played by President Warren in the movement that resulted in the organization of the State Association of Charities and Correction. On the other hand, in connection with the passage of a bill, during the recent session of the Legislature, authorizing the construction of a new building for the State University, it was insinuated in the papers that the Yankton County members voted against the bill because of their interest in the local institution. I know nothing whatever as to the truthfulness of the insinuation; but, with the fullest appreciation of the desire to be loyal to the

College, I am very sure that any such partisan manifestation of that desire, whenever and wherever it occurs, works ultimately for the injury, not the benefit, of the institution.

I close with a reiteration of my unquestioning acceptance of two beliefs: first, that the most important factor in the success of our College, during the first quarter-century of her existence, has been a large measure of fidelity to the historic ideals and aims of the American College; second, that the strongest pledge of the continuance of her success during the second quarter-century will be an increasingly earnest and thorough devotion of herself and all her powers and resources to the embodiment of those same great ideals in the minds and hearts and lives of her students, and, through them, in the life and institutions of our State; amid whatever changes in means and methods changing times and circumstances may render advisable.

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